Friday, August 17, 2012 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 250 P18 | Mobile Alerts: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Go business ranges from lending firm to mining

By Marlon Ramos

CONVICTED road rage killer Rolito Go has been engaged in various business activities, ranging from moneylending to mining, while staying inside the National Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City.

"He has made use of his skills as a businessman to build his own business inside the (state penitentiary)," said an NBP official, who declined to be identified for fear of reprisal from his superiors.

Go, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for killing amateur tennis player Angelo Angeles in 1991 over a traffic altercation, was running a lending business, with interest and a number of jail personnel among his "regular borrowers," the official said.

The murder convict usually required vehicles as collateral for the loans, which helped him start a used car trading business in Quezon City, he added.

When the Supreme Court in the NBP on

GO BUSINESS A15

GO BACK TO JAIL Murder convict Rolito Go looks back as he is led inside the maximum-security compound of the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City on Thursday. Go, who went missing for 24 hours, claims he and his nephew were kidnapped on Tuesday night by 4 men posing as NBI agents. Go's story has been met with skepticism even if the police initial investigation showed that the road rage killer was forklifted taken inside the prison compound.

Heads roll over Go caper

P-Noy ups reward for Palparan, Reyes et al.

By Michael Lim Ubac

PEGGED that the nation's most wanted fugitives remain scot-free, President Aquino yesterday raised the bounty for the capture of Jovito Palparan, a retired general known as "the butcher," and other high-profile figures facing criminal charges.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda told reporters that Mr. Aquino was "displeased with the lack of progress" in arresting Palparan, former Palawan Gov. Joel Reyes and his brother Mario, real estate developer Delfin Lee, Dinagat Rep. Ruben Ecleo, and communist guerrilla chiefs Benito Tiamzon and Jorge Madlos.

PHOTO | B11

PJ NATIONAL ARTIST Susan Roces gestures toward a large photo of her late husband Fernando Poe Jr. at the conferment of the national artist award, posthumous, on the movie actor and presidential candidate on Thursday by, says his widow "a duly elected President," President Aquino. (Story on Page A2.)

House split causing RH bill delay

By Christian V. Esguerra and Leila B. Salaverria

LAWMAKERS traded barbs as the House of Representatives failed to open the crucial period of amendments on the reproductive health (RH) bill for two straight session days.

Given the coming long weekend and the chamber's presumption with budget deliberations, the issue will have to wait until Aug. 28 when congressmen resume their plenary sessions.

Deputy Majority Leader Janette Garin on Wednesday complained on the floor about the move by her colleagues

HOUSE A10

Sotto says sponsors will hardly recognize RH bill / A2

'Helen' exits; public told to stay alert for monsoon rains

By DJ Yap, Inquirer Northern Luzon and Inquirer Central Luzon

TYPHOON "Helen" is out but rains remain a threat to people living in low-lying and mountainous areas.

The weather bureau asked the public to remain watchful of rains and winds brought by the storm-enhanced southwest monsoon.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) lowered all public storm signals nationwide as Helen exited the country on Thursday.

Pagasa reissued its warning to residents living in low-lying and mountainous areas affected by the southwest monsoon

HELEN A10

P-Noy ally seeks probe of P352-B flood control project / A10

BuCor director, 5 guards sacked

By TJ Burgonio, Jaymee T. Gamil and Philip C. Tubeza

CONVICTED murderer Rolito Go is back in the stockade, the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) chief has gone on leave and five jail guards have been sacked as President Aquino ordered a probe into how a high-profile inmate disappeared from prison for at least 24 hours.

Police yesterday said their investigation showed that Go and a nephew who was with him were "forcibly taken" from a maximum security compound at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City, but Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said this was being looked into.

Go disappeared from prison on Tuesday evening. Police were able to get him back on Wednesday at about 11 p.m.

De Lima said Mr. Aquino was dismayed by what happened, given that measures had been adopted following reports that prominent inmates had been allowed to "live out" in the past.

"He is disappointed because, you know, this kind of incident keeps happening," De Lima told reporters.

"He (the President) said, 'he thought all the safeguards and

HEADS A13

Singapore court awards Marcos millions to PNB

SINGAPORE—Singapore's High Court has ruled that more than $23 million representing part of the ill-gotten wealth that the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos had stashed in Swiss banks rightfully belongs to Philippine National Bank (PNB).

In a 77-page ruling obtained on Thursday by Agence France-Presse, Justice Andrew Ang declared the rival claims of the Philippine government, victims of human rights violations during the Marcos dictatorial regime, and four foundations

SINGAPORE A20

No doubting Thomas when it comes to Pinoy grit

By Terra Quinsaat

WE'S NO doubting Thomas when it comes to Filipino resilience in the wake of the flooding that displaced thousands of families in Metro Manila and other parts of Luzon.

"It is good to see you all safe and sound. It's as it as it is," US Ambassador to the Philippines Harry Thomas Jr. wrote this text message at St. Francis Chapel in Cainta, Rizal province.

NO DOUBTING | A11

UNSINKABLE US Ambassador Harry Thomas visits an evacuation center in Cainta, Rizal, on Thursday where he sees close up the unsinkable spirit of the Filipino.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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WEATHER FORECAST

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2P2D: 31 25 / 18 5 / 25 2

LUCKY 9: 4 7 9 / 7 2 0 / 5 5 3

SIX DIGIT: 2 3 2 8 7 8 1

6/42 LUZ-VIS-MIN: 5 6 22 24 37 39 — P5,976,162.00

SUPER LOTTO 6/49: 5 7 8 12 20 30 — P16,000,000.00

Execs of PNOC firm face raps

Koko joins LP as guest candidate

By Michael Lim Ubac

SEN. AQUILINO "Koko" Pimentel III has accepted President Aquino's invitation to run as a "guest candidate" of the ruling coalition in the 2013 senatorial race.

Pimentel, who is the president of the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban), announced his acceptance of Mr. Aquino's offer following a meeting with the President yesterday at the conferencem of the National Artist Award on the late Nicole dela Merced Ong Jr.

"I would like to announce that I have accepted the President's invitation for me to join and be part of his senatorial ticket for 2013, and I would like to thank the President for inviting me," he told reporters.

He said Mr. Aquino extended the invitation to him at a dinner meeting during the Independence Day diplomatic reception at the Palace.

"The President said, 'you have a home here,' so I really feel at home and welcome in the President's rocket," said Pimentel.

He stressed that he was not leaving his party as he would be running only as "guest candidate" of the Liberal Party (LP)-led administration coalition.

PDP-Laban, of which Vice President Jejomar Binay is the chair, has formed the rival United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) with the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino (PMP) of deposed President and senator Joseph Estrada.

Pimentel declined to say under the UNA coalition if he would support the bid of former senator Miguel Zubiri who was "erroneously" declared the winner of the 12th and final slot in the 2007 senatorial election.

Pimentel, who was declared the rightful winner after a Commission on Elections investigation reevaluated supposed election fraud in the 2007 elections, resumed office only in August 2011 after Zubiri resigned.

Pimentel has insisted that Zubiri was involved in the fraud and said he could not "in conscience" run in the same joint with him.

'Debt of gratitude'

Asked if other members of his party would follow him into the administration coalition, Pimentel said: "This is a personal decision. I am the only person affected."

He said his inclusion in the administration senatorial slate had no precondition.

But he admitted to owing a "debt of gratitude" to Mr. Aquino for his victory in his election protest against Zubiri.

Pimentel said the President had told him at the meeting that the administration's senatorial slate was almost complete.

"He has a problem, I think, because there are still 13 names and they (party officials) prepare for (only) 12 candidates," he said.

The President earlier announced at least three would be senatorial candidates of the coalition—former Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority head Joel Villanueva and noted actress Rosa Rosal-Bautista—Inquirer

OVERCOME by emotion, Susan Roces hugs her daughter Mary Grace Poe Llamanzares, during yesterday's posthumous conferment of the National Artist Award to the actor Fernando Poe Jr. in Malacañang. —LYNDON BO

Worth waiting for; Susan accepts award for FPJ

By TJ Burgonio

IT SEEMED redeemed by four national artists, Fernando Poe Jr.'s widow Susan Roces and daughters Mary Grace Poe Llamanzares finally received the posthumous National Artist medallion and citation on behalf of the "Hari ng Kanto" of Filipino movies from President Aquino in Malacañang after a six-year long wait.

"It's worth waiting for—a lot—as expressed by a duly elected President," said Roces, who had accused then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo of sending the star-breadwinner husband to the May 2004 presidential elections. "This is now entirely his politics."

Roces said the award is even better than every one in the industry prays for and dreams about getting some day.

Arroyo set the conferment of the award on Poe in May 2006, but his family skipped the event in protest of Palace's ban in favor of Poe's 2004 movie "Ang Panday" (The Blacksmith), due to its supposed resemblance to Aquino's late husband Ninoy Aquino.

Roces said she received the capitol artwork—a Commission on Elections investigation reevaluated supposed election fraud in the 2007 elections, resumed office only in August 2011 after Zubiri resigned.

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'Debt of gratitude'

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SBMA exec in rice smuggling attempt suspended

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—A Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) official has been suspended for using the name of Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile to allegedly pressure a colleague to help process the release of a shipment of Indian rice despite the lack of documents.

Eldred Babis, SBMA senior deputy administrator for business development, is facing charges for his alleged involvement in the attempt to smuggle P400-million worth of Indian rice into SBMA Chair Roberto Garcia said on Wednesday.

Garcia said Subic's testimony is the ongoing Senate hearings on the rice smuggling attempt "has very much implicated him."

"Every Senate hearing, there's a headshot. In the last Senate hearing, it was Subic's admission that he (presented SBMA senior deputy administrator for business development) Eldred Babis to issue a certification. We can now relate a formal charge against him, and his preventive suspension is effective today," said Garcia.

Earlier, Subic said Babis need not be suspended to make way for the SBMA investigation of the case.

Garcia said the SBMA governance committee was closed to complete its investigation, noting that even Babis may resign to "save face."

Garcia said the SBMA governance committee was closed to complete its investigation, noting that even Babis may resign to "save face."

"With due respect, I would want the result of the Senate hearings."

Garcia said the issue has given him the opportunity to reform the SBMA. "This has been a golden opportunity for us to clean up SBMA. As you know I only inherited this mess (from previous SBMA administration)," he said.

Robert Camenzuli, Inquirer General Luzon

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ADB: Asian megacities face infra 'time bomb'

MANDALUYONG—Asian national governments must act quickly to protect their cities from flooding and other natural disasters as rapid urbanization raises environmental risks, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said Wednesday.

Major investments in infrastructure and smarter urban planning—focused on green growth—are the only routes to curbing the impact of such catastrophes as the region's metropolises expand, an ADB report said.

"Asia has seen unprecedented urban population growth, but this has been accompanied by immense stress on the environment," said ADB chief economist Changyong Rhee.

Green technology

"The challenge now is to put in place policies which will reverse that trend and facilitate the development of green technology and green urbanization," he added.

"The (urbanization) trend will continue at an enormously fast speed... Asian cities have very little time to prepare and build proper infrastructure."

Deadly floods that submerged 80 percent of Manila last week, the deluge that killed dozens in the Chinese capital in July and the inundation of parts of Bangkok last year were warning signs that major Asian cities cannot cope with the challenges of climate change and protect their populations, the ADB said.

'Megacities'

The situation is likely to worsen, the poverty-fighting bank warned, as Asia's economies grow and hundreds of millions of people flock to "megacities" with populations of 1.0 million or more.

Asia's cities lured more than a billion new residents between 1980 and 2010 and will draw a billion more by 2040, according to ADB research, with more than half of the world's megacities located in the region.

As a result, soaring pollution, crime, social inequality and slum living are heaping pressure on existing infrastructure, hastening the need for bold responses from city authorities, the Manila-based organization said.

Asia has "spent lots of money on infrastructure, but that's not enough to protect people," Rhee said. AFP

PH ranks 3rd in 'slide deaths

THE PHILIPPINES ranks third in terms of casualties and costs among 10 countries identified as key spots for nonearthquake-related landslides, according to a professor of hazard and risk at Durham University in the United Kingdom.

David Petley, lead author of the recently released study "Global patterns of loss of life from landslides," also identified "the mountainous river valleys and steep coasts of the Philippines [as] places" as among the global hotspots for landslides.

Petley noted that the Philippines had 4,183 lives in 226 nonseismic landslides between 2004 and 2010.

In terms of casualties, the Philippines ranks behind China (6,800 deaths) and Haiti (4,671 deaths), and followed by India (3,433 deaths), Indonesia (2,079 deaths), Guatemala (2,001 deaths) and Pakistan (1,920 deaths).

Published by the Geology journal, the study tallied a total of 32,322 deaths in 2,620 landslides around the world within a seven-year period.

"Landslides are a global hazard requiring a major change in perception and policy," said Petley.

"There are things that we can do to manage and mitigate landslide risks such as controlling land use, preventive forest management and guiding development away from vulnerable areas," he added. Inquirer Research

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GMA: No plea bargain in 2 graft cases; I'm innocent

By Cynthia D. Balana

MANILA) President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said she would not plead guilty to lesser offenses in order to evade tougher penalties in the two graft cases filed against her before the Sandiganbayan in connection with her alleged involvement in a scrapped $329-million telecommunications deal during her administration.

"President Arroyo is not open to any plea bargain. She maintains her innocence and stands by her not guilty plea," her lawyers said.

In an eight-page pleading filed yesterday by her defense counsels, Arroyo, now a representative of Pampanga's second district, expressed her desire to face trial on all cases brought against her pending before the anti-graft court's Fourth Division, where she is also facing an administrative proceeding.

Arroyo's lawyers said they would present 32 potential witnesses to testify in her defense and identified various documents that they would mark as evidence during the trial stage. The brief was signed by J. Alberto C. Hamoranos, Laurence Hector R. Arroyo and Jose Anselmo S. Alban.

Arroyo is accused of two counts of graft and/or violation of the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees for allegedly having had unlawful interests in the NBN-ZTE deal.

Arroyo's lawyers listed former President Fidel V. Ramos as one of witnesses for the defense.

Also listed were three of Set Cabinet officials, former Trade Secretary Peter D. Favila, former Department of Budget and Management Secretary Romulo L. Neri and former Local Government Secretary Ronaldo V. Puno.

In the second graft case, Arroyo identified only two possible witnesses, former Bataan Governor Enrique T. Garcia and former Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr., both named reserved in the case.

Rains, floods portent of El Niño, says Pagasa

By DJ Yap

Labor chief reminds firms on holiday pay

By Tina G. Santos

P-Noy ally seeks probe of ₱352-B flood control project

By Christian V. Esguerra

SEN. ALLY of President Aquino has asked the House of Representatives to scrutinize the ₱352-billion flood control project the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is preparing for Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

In a resolution, Hacienda Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said "there is a need to assure our people that this flood control plan and the projects that are going to be undertaken, in support of this plan are based on a holistic study."

Biazon said the master plan should "consider some factors such as changing weather patterns, changed topography of areas due to urbanization and development, burst detention and over-reliance even on the creation of new employment centers to decongest existing urban centers."

Before the congressional inquiry could officially begin, Biazon quizzed Public Works Secretary Rogelio Singson on the money or ownership's funding on the agency's proposed ₱352.5-billion budget for next year.

Shopping list of projects

Singson said the ₱352-billion flood control budget would cover a long "shopping list of projects not possible in several years" covering "the greater Metro Manila and Laguna Lake area."

He said the list included the Pacific tunnel and Pantabangan spillway.

"We're going through the process of identifying which ones should be implemented," he told the House committee on appropriations.

Biazon, whose city was heavily affected by flooding caused by the recent monsoon rains and the swelling of Laguna de bay, said "dapat 'di po ba' had compile the inquiry "so that Congress may be informed on what is on the line" on the master project.

A DPWH official earlier said the flood management plan would run up to 2035 and would cover a total of 11 infrastructure projects, such as a ₱198.42-billion dam in Rizal, a ₱10.42-billion dike in Pasig-Marikina City.

According to a previous Inquirer report, the master plan would also include drainage improvements in Manila (₱27.2 billion); Bird Manggahan Floodway and improvement in Cainta and Taytay rivers (₱26 billion); Malabon-Tullahan river improvements (₱11.6 billion); Bayanihan river improvements (₱14.24 billion); Valenzuela-Obando-Bityacuman river improvements (₱8.651 billion); breaking for small cities around Laguna Lake (₱7.35 billion); and improvement of inflow rivers to Laguna Lake (₱627 million).

As the budget hearing, Singson was swamped with inquiries from different Luzon lawmakers how the DPWH could select infrastructure projects intended to mitigate flooding in their respective areas.

One such lawmaker was Cavite Rep. Lani Mercado-Revilla, who recalled how her district was severely flooded recently.

Subdivision developers

Singson pledged assistance, but also took the opportunity to appeal to local executives to require subdivision or small developers to come up with their own "water retaining ponds," as is supposedly the practice in other countries.

"Why I suggest—not trying to—[that] the example in Los Baños since, that local government, before they approve subdivision plans, require impounding before water is discharged into the city drainage system," he said.

"Otherwise, our problem is we would just continue excavating and expanding the drainage because we didn't know that all of these developers, all of a sudden, would discharge their floodwaters," he added.

Singson noted that city drainage systems in many areas were "not designed to take all the runoff" water coming from (unnecessary built by) the developers."

He cited the practice in Japan where "tennis courts and basements of multistorey and vault[s]... were designated to contain the "excess flow of waters."

Heads roll over Go caper: BuCor director, 5 guards axed

From page A1

all the reform initiatives have been put in place to avoid similar incidents," Mr's really disappointed and that's why he immediately ordered an investigation," he said.

De Lima said Mr. Aquino's reaction was "How can it happen again, if it's true that it's obvious or kidnapping for ransom right within the NBP?"

Pangilinan takes leave

Malacañang praised the Philippine National Police for its operating Go. "It is good that while our agency was apparently remiss in its duties, another agency stepped up," said presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda.

Lacierda added: "To emphasize the principle of command responsibility and help the investigation, Bureau of Corrections Director Gaudencio Pangilinan has offered to go on leave, and the President has accepted it."

Lacierda said the NBP would be under the direct supervision of De Lima "pending the appointment of an officer in charge."

De Lima said Pangilinan went on leave "for the sake of an impartial and thorough investigation."

"Let's not prejudge him," De Lima said when asked if Pangilinan was under pressure to resign.

"Maybe he's thinking about it, maybe he's not yet thinking about it, maybe he has a good explanation, maybe he can explain the level of responsibility and the level of efficiency and competence that was expected of him as the overall administrator of the facility," the justice secretary added.

TOO ILL TO BE ON THE RUN Arabia Golidtz his chair to show media the cotton swab he claims he carries. Go is suffering from colon cancer. At right is NBP chief Nicanor Bartolome. MIKE ALQUINTO

COMMAND RESPONSIBILITY: BuCor Director Pangilinan

BACK TO BASICS AS USUAL? The New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City, whose special confinement is reportedly accorded high-profile inmates despite reformers' assertions that sex-for-hire is gone. MIKE ALQUINTO

5 guards sacked

The NBP sacked five BuCor personnel first responsible for Go's disappearance from prison. They were the officer in charge of the NBP detainees security compound, Prison Officer 3 (PO3) Gabriel Magsi, PO3 Sotero Gervacio, PO3 Edgardo Cruz and Prison Guards Andrew Cosio and Antonio Bautista.

De Lima agreed that the public rejected command responsibility to touch Pangilinan's loved but said managing the prison is "not a desk job."

"That facility is beset with many problems, and in fairness, Director Pangilinan introduced many reforms when he took over," she told Malacañang reporters.

De Lima was skeptical about the claim of Go's family that he had been snatched from prison.

She said that according to the initial information from Pangilinan, the family of Go was claiming that he and his nephew, who was assigned to him as a nurse, "were abducted and that there was a P1-million demand."

"But that information was met with so much skepticism by Director Pangilinan, by myself and by others. Even the NBI (now) says they do not find that theory plausible but we cannot yet rule out that angle," she said.

Stricken with cancer

De Lima added: "We might put him back to somewhere other than the maximum security compound."

She said investigators would have to check the BuCor information "because right now he is really a maximum security category, because of his age—more than 70 years old, on account of his illness—he is reportedly suffering from colon cancer, and that he is due to be released next year."

Go underwent chemotherapy after he was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2010, a supposed joint conference at the PNP he claimed his colostomy bag in the media and said his nephew had been helping him for the last two months with his treatment.

De Lima did not rule out the possibility that an escape attempt would jeopardize Go's release next year.

She said, "If it turns out that he was indeed abducted, then there's no culpability on his part. But if he was an escapee, there are consequences in that. That might jeopardize his scheduled release next year."

'Hill agents'

She said the justice department could file charges against Go, as it had done against former Batangas Gov. Antonio Leviste over the latter's infamous trip out of prison last year. Leviste is serving 11 years in jail for the 2007 killing of his friend Rafael de los Reyes.

In the press conference in Camp Crame, Go said four men who pretended to be National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) agents forcibly took him and his nephew, Domeneo Fe, from the NBP compound at noon of 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

He said he and his nephew were released on Wednesday night in Sto. Tomas, Batangas province.

"I was at his ng Ate para'di ng ma-war back to the (unintelligible) compound when the four suddenly arrived, arresting Ito and claiming to be from the NBI. They had guns," Go said in Filipino.

"I didn't know if it were but they knew me. They used IDs. Ito' said they were taking me to the NBI," he added.

PNP Director General Nicanor Bartolome presented Go and Fe to the press earlier Friday in Camp Crame.

Go said that despite the public uproar over the latest disappearance from the NBP, he was still hoping he would be freed next year.

"Time might be running out for me. I'm worried my health is failing. At least, I would still have the chance to be with my family," he said.

Forced into car

Go said his abductors told him they were bringing him to the NBI because they were going to raid out of the NBP compound to detect contraband.

Go said that, as a "living will" statute since 2010, he was allowed to go out of the maximum security compound.

"I said I couldn't go with them... but he put his arm over my shoulder and forced me to take a ride," Go said.

Bartolome said the culprits used Fe's contract, a valuable Honda City (UKB 985), in taking them out of the compound.

Go said he and his nephew were taken to a safe house in Batangas and the kidnappers asked for a "big" amount from his family.

He said the kidnappers contacted his wife and that his wife agreed to give a smaller amount but they did not proceed "because they felt that my wife was also supposed to kill agents."

He second men came on Wednesday, they broke down the door and killed," he said. He said that when evening came, his abductors killed Antony (their source) and then decided to release him and his nephew.

"Maybe they saw that they wouldn't get much from me. And if they kill me, they won't get any so they let me go," he said. "I thought they got (a ransom) but when I got home, my wife said no (amount) was paid."

Gaudiez escapes

Bartolome said the police recovered Fe's car in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, and found an empty shell and one live ammunition inside.

"This jibes with the statement of Mr. Go that they operated first at Sto. Tomas (while he)... escaped first to Ilo. Go, they were hit him on the head," Bartolome said.

Go showed reporters a bump in his head and cuts in his right arm. Bartolome said Fe also had wounds.

Bartolome said his men received information on Wednesday night that Go and Fe had been released and had taken a bus. He said police waited for the bus in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

"Fast enough, Mr. Robbie Go and Mr. Fe disembarked from a bus that came from Sto. Tomas, Batangas. The vans were presented and given medical attention," Bartolome said.

Privileges

Looking tired and bedraggled, with bills of torn hair sticking up his forehead, Go was brought back to the NBP at around 2 p.m. on Thursday.

Escorted by six jail guards, Go was immediately processed and would be taken to the prison hospital, according to NBP Superintendent Richard Schwendopf Jr.

This means the reversal for of Go's "living will" privileges. He will also no longer be allowed to leave the maximum security compound.

Kidnappers from inside?

Junior Undersecretary Francisco Bueno said PNP officials were looking for negligence whether Go was abducted or escaped from prison.

If he did fly to escape, the result in how his application for parole and the chance to leave prison were may be said.

Bueno said there was also a lapse in security because how did the kidnappers get in unless they are insiders, which is also a possibility.

Bueno said they would also look into allegations that Go was spotted at Nuevo Ilocos Norte City last week, noting that was a "serious allegation." NBP reports from Christine O. Avendaño in Manila and Marvyn Rivka Lozada, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Go business ranges from lending firm to real estate to mining

From page A1

Wednesday, a day after Go was reported missing and purportedly taken out of prison by unidentified men, three special utility vehicles (SPVs) were parked outside his hotel (page A4).

Apartment buildings

Those vehicles were repossessed by Robbie Go after their owners failed to pay their loans," the source said.

Go also owns several apartment buildings in Muntinlupa, he said.

Inquirer Southern Luzon reporter Jeannette Andrade in Batangas contributed to this report.

Besides his imprisonment since 1996, Go managed to put up a mining company in several mining areas in Zambales province and supervised another one, Sinarap Construction Corp.

Aside from owning his clothes and the office of his lending business in Solidum Bldg. in Muntinlupa, he is also known to go out of prison to check on his mining company's operations and his sale of the mine, Inquirer's Bueno added.

Go has undergone surgery for colon cancer and walks around with a colostomy bag attached to his abdomen. His caretakers are practically exposed, the source said.

The day before his disappearance, Go was believed to have been carrying cash amounting to at least ₱50,000, according to the NBP official.

Go had received the money from village officials who "collected" ₱50 pieces of bamboo poles from him, he said. The poles cost ₱1 each, the source said.

He said he has seen the contract in Go's possession. Solidum "looks" at the back of the bus in Antipolo. The first is just a few steps away from the air-conditioned room once occupied by fellow MP prisoners, former Zamboanga del Norte Rep. Romeo Jalosjos and Davao "Bolilanders Jr.

Richard Schwendopf, NBP superintendent, said he was "puzzled" by Go's disappearance since he was supposed to finish his prison term in June 2013.

"That's why we're not yet discounting the report that he was abducted. We are closely coordinating with other law enforcement agencies," Schwendopf said.

Too ill to be on the run

The source said it was unlikely for Go to slip out of prison because he will not leave behind his relatives.

"Those vehicles are outside millions of pesos. Why would he waste that by escaping?" he said.

He also noted that Go was "too ill" to choose a life on the run.

SCHWENDOPF

RUBEN Reyes JOVITO Palparan JOEL Reyes GELPHI Lee

P-Noy ups reward for Palparan, Reyes et al.

From page A1

He said the President's action would "assist the authorities in their task of capturing these fugitives."

Mr. Aquino doubled the reward from P1 million to P2 million for information leading to the arrest of Palparan, who is facing charges of kidnapping for the disappearance of students Sherlyn Cadapan and Karen Empeño in 2006. Activists call him "the butcher" for his alleged human rights abuses.

The US-based Human Rights Watch said in a recent report that Palparan was being protected by some military officials and businessmen who had benefited from his high-handed suppression of the communist insurgency.

Mr. Aquino raised the reward from P1.55 million to P2 million for the capture of Reyes and another P2 million for his brother, who is mayor of Guces, Dilawan province. The brothers have been tagged as the brains behind the killing of Palparan broadcaster and environmentalist Gerry Ortega.

A reward of P1 million each may set for Lee and Xiabo. The owner of Globe Asiatique, Lee is charged with syndicated estafa. Xiabo is wanted for the murder of his wife Gloria in Cebu City in 2006 and had been sentenced to life imprisonment in absentia.

Mr. Aquino reminded the public of the encouragement of P5.6 million each for the capture of Tiamzon and Madlos, ranking leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People's Army (CPP-NPA). The two have outstanding warrants of arrest.

Interagency task force

Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, appearing in the Palace news briefing with Lazatin, announced he had formed an interagency task force composed of the National Bureau of Investigation and Philippine National Police to unify and intensify the manhunt efforts of law enforcement authorities.

Robredo admitted that previous efforts of the "tracker teams" put up by the PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group had all failed.

"Dito's there is an additional order from the President to double up efforts to hunt them down," said Robredo, assuring the public that all arrests are still in the country.

National Security Adviser Cesar Garcia expressed confidence that the reinstation of the existing bounty for Tiamzon and Madlos would not affect the reveal of the peace talks with the National Democratic Front (NDF).

"The bounties for these two top wanted CPP/NPA personalities have been outstanding ever since even while the peace process was going on," he said.

Hardliners

Garcia described Tiamzon as the leader of the hardline faction of the CPP/NPA.

He said Tiamzon was responsible for "the spate of violent incidents that have been occurring throughout the Philippines, particularly those perpetrated against civilian targets, in complete disregard of the ongoing peace process."

Madlos was described as "a notorious CPP/NPA personality responsible for several high-profile attacks on civilian targets and key economic programs in Mindanao."

He was involved in several kidnapping incidents as well as one of those charged for the said ex-Tapanoni killers.

Garcia said the government had already addressed an NDF demand for the release of 17 detained guerrillas.

"We have, in fact, released several of them—not the entire number but several of them—[which is] quite a significant number. And the discussions between the NDF and the GRP panel are [ongoing]," he said.

No doubting Thomas when it comes to Pinoy grit

From page A1

His line in Filipino, delivered with a halang, drew loud applause.

Thomas was joined by officials of the United States Agency for International Development, Catholic Relief Services and Cainta Mayor Meo Ilagan in bringing relief packs and hygiene kits to flood-stricken families at Kaliraya Elementary School and St. Francis Chapel.

"Once again, you have shown us your extraordinary courage and resilience...stop moving (upang) makapagbangong (sumangin)," Thomas said.

He later said that the Filipinos' ability of making do in the midst of a disaster showed their "extraordinary courage and resilience."

Their residence was evacuated by Jaylee Santillan and her family when water in marikina sa'n sa'n sinas, their only source of income.

As the Marcgaptan Floodway swelled amid monsoon rains almost two weeks ago, Santillan and her family scrambled on the school deep flood, moving their valuables and their sari-sari store.

In their second week at Kaliraya Elementary School, which was turned into an evacuation center, Santillan's little infant simmer inborn where his business as usual, offers evacuated families namely from the usual relief pack flow. A selection of hygiene products, coffee, milk and the best-seller, cigarettes.

"My husband does and have a job. This is our only means of income. It's good that they allowed us to run our sari-sari store as long as we don't sell canned goods and liquor," Santillan said in Filipino, while tending to her store on the ground floor of the school.

Close to 600 families have remained at the evacuation center since moving there last week.

"We have to earn because two of my children have to go to school," said Santillan, whose two elder children go to high school in Pasig.

Wet nurse

In another corner, social worker Yhoi Rillo is on the look out for infants who may go hungry, saying some mothers would leave their babies to the care of relatives without leaving them milk.

"Their mothers have to look for money. So, I decided that since I'm also breast-feeding, I could breast-feed the babies here for the meantime," said the 25-year old mother of a 3-month-old.

With the government's campaign for breast-feeding, formula milk may not be given as aid in evacuation centers, she said. Hence, mothers are required to feed their babies only breast-milk.

"I would see grandmothers taking to breast-feed their grandchildren just so they would stop crying. So, I decided to breast-feed them myself," Rillo said.

She assured the public that what she did not to do was safe for the babies and herself.

Salute to P-Noy

"Ang hyang kanilipatan ay methodyo sa umin. Sana ay matatuloy ito kung ang dating ay buhay ay tatlong magdulog yaluwhat (Your welfare is important to us. I hope you will get back to your normal lives as soon as possible)," Thomas said despite a heavy accent, prompting an eruption of applause from the crowd.

The first to give relief assistance in the amount of P4.3 million after last week's floods, the United States extended an additional P10 million to support government-led relief efforts in Luzon, the ambassador said.

Thomas hailed the Aquino administration's response to the disaster as he vowed that the United States would continue to support Philippine disaster-related programs, from prevention to response.

"I would like to salute President Aquino and his Cabinet for his robust response to this typhoon...has a wonderful job. They are welfare-paced, and I would like to commend the President's long-term vision on what needs to be done to prevent this from happening again," he said.

NURSERY Mothers who fled their homes due to floods nurse their babies at an evacuation center in Cainta, Rizal.

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Kua brother points to different suspect

By Marivar Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

CAMP VICENTE LIM—Allyson Kua, the brother of slain Philippine Tourism Author's retired and economist Nieves Kua, named his landscaper as the main suspect in the attack that killed his brother.

In a news conference Dan Allyson executed on Aug. 6 before the Laguna Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), he named a certain Raymond, his and his brother's landscape artist, as the only one, except for family members, who had knowledge that Nieves carried cash the night they were attacked on July 21 at Allyson's home in Ayala's Greenfield Estate, an upscale subdivision in Calamba City, Laguna.

"Only he (Raymond) knew that Nieves paid the workers concerning his house in the same village on Saturdays," read Allyson's statement, a copy of which was furnished by the CIDG on Thursday by lawyer Ryan Mayo.

Mayo had also identified the landscape artist as a certain Raymond Matias, a resident of La Mesa village in Calamba City.

Mayo, the defense counsel of suspects John Ray Cortez, Dinnie Jimenez, Noel Cereza, and Michael Medina, filed a counter affidavit in the Calamba City prosecutor's office on Aug. 17, arguing that his clients were never "full guys."

"It seems that the investigation was done hastily earlier on, but last weeks could hold a press conference announcing that (the case had been solved). My theory was that they were just fall guys," he said.

He said his clients, now in jail custody, have never met Matias.

He also said his clients have been named suspects by the police even before Nieves's family executed their statement.

"The crime took place on July 21. The following day, the police officers Dinn Calamba (City) had filed charges with an affidavit naming the three (Cortez, Jimenez, Cortez) as suspects. They later added Medina (on the list) when (Nieves's family) claimed there were four suspects. How could that be possible?" Mayo said.

He said Nieves's wife, Susan, had executed her sworn statement only in the afternoon of July 23 and identified his cousin based on photos shown to her by the police.

The suspects, who were turned over to authorities by their families and village officials in the evening of July 23, were facing arrest warrants a court issued also in July for a 2009 rape case.

Mayo believed this could have been used by police to mark his clients as suspects.

"Positive identification is still stronger than any alibi. They were identified not just by (Nieves's) wife but also by the kids who were there during the commission (of the crime)," said Laguna police director Senior Supt. Gilbert Cruz.

Senior Supt. Reynaldo Mallen, CIDG chief in Camarines (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon), said police earlier "invited" Mayo for questioning but found no evidence tying him to the case.

"The case has been submitted to court so let's just let the court decide," Cruz said.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

A surprise visit

AFTER EMPLOYEES of the national weather bureau denounced their present over the continuing suspension of their Magna Carta benefits last Tuesday, they got an unexpected visitor. That same afternoon, some hours after members of the Philippine Weathermen Employees Association (PWEA) staged a lunchtime walkout and rallied a noon conference, President Aquino showed up at the Pagasa forecasting center, with the budget chief in tow.

EDITORIALS

At the closed-door meeting that immediately followed, the President assured Pagasa employees that the suspension of the benefits specified in Republic Act 6439, or the Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers and other Science and Technology Personnel in Government, would be lifted, and that they would receive all the benefits they expected to receive for the first half of the year. He also clarified that the Magna Carta benefits of the agency would need to be aligned with those of other affiliated units of the Department of Science and Technology, beginning with the benefits scheduled for the second half of the year.

Budget Secretary Florencio Abad followed through the following day, clarifying the issue of hazard pay, which Pagasa used to disburse to all employees, whether they served in hazardous conditions or not.)

We will take a closer look at something else Mr. Aquino did for did not do) at that unscheduled meeting, but for now let's consider the visit itself. It was not, as some critics have alleged, an overreaction on the President's part. How could it be? An agency felt Aquino identified as vital from his first days in office (we remember that he fired the agency director for what he perceived as an inability to adapt, to respond, to carry (relatively) bad (seldom) publicized its grievances. He was obliged to respond.

And consider the circumstances last Tuesday, two more days after last week's floods, the country was bracing for yet another storm. While there was nothing in the employees' news conference to suggest that Pagasa forecasters would neglect their duties or abandon their work—the union presently took care to urge them preserve during the lunch break—it was only prudent for national government officials to encourage the worst.

The President could have dispatched Abad and Science Secretary Mario Montejo to meet with the Pagasa employees, or called the agency's officials to a meeting in Malacañang. That would have fulfilled his obligation to respond. That he did not, that he decided to see to the problem himself, and immediately, is something unusual and, in our book, worth commending.

A surprising sermon

WHEN President Aquino arrived at the Pagasa forecasting center on Tuesday, the reception—according to one report cited on dzBB—was enthusiastic; surprised Pagasa employees were excited to see him. When he left, the sendoff was decidedly more subdued.

Apparently, the President had used the unusual occasion not only to promise budgetary support for the suspended Magna Carta benefits but also to give a "sermon"—and the employees were stunned.

What did the President say, exactly? Not all the details are clear, but according to sketchy reports, he had lectured the Pagasa employees present on their duty to the country, especially at a time of imminent danger.

An official of the Philippine Weathermen Employees Association admitted that the brand hewed upon.

"That was our initial reaction," Pilita Ara president Vivien Espinel said. "We did not expect that President Aquino himself would be delivering a sermon to us when we were the ones protesting. We were mortified."

Other union members said they thought the President was out of turn. Many agency personnel report for work even though they quite literally have no money, even though working conditions are poor; perhaps they needed no lesson in responsibility. Espinel, however, reasoned that, in reconsideration, she understood where the President was coming from. "For me, the discussion was okay. The President made his point. It wasn't as if he was speaking unreasonably."

For a President who is cementing a reputation for tough and frank talk, we think his remarks before Pagasa employees—as they have so far been characterized—is all of a piece. We just need to make sure he puts his money where his mouth is.

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Gun possession leads to tragedy

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

RED HILL—the energy clerk, not the hooker, hill town—is in trouble. A disgruntled former electrician, Energy Food and Drinks Inc. (EFDI), has filed a complaint of "misbranding" with the competition commission. The Red Hill Board of Councilors (the Legislative Department of the city) has scheduled an investigation.

Here is what happened: TCH terminated the contract of EFDI as distributor of their Bull products in the Philippines for just cause (failing to meet its obligations). It appointed MDI as its new Philippine distributor. EFDI did not take this sitting down and filed a case of "unfair competition through trade mislabeling" against TCH and MDI.

But there is no unfair competition in the first place.

In its reply, TCH stated: "How can we be in violation of the said law (Intellectual Property Code) when we are, in truth and in fact, the owners of the intellectual property right, which in this case is the Red Bull brand? ... How can it manufacture be used for unfair competition for its very own product when there is no competing product to deceive with?"

The Legazpi City Prosecutor's Office, before which the complaint was filed, dismissed the case. EFDI appealed the case to the DOJ. The DOJ Task Force on Anti-Intellectual Property Piracy as well as the Office of the Assistant Secretary, upheld the Legazpi prosecutor and dismissed the case. Another case was filed with the City Prosecutor's Office in San Bernardo, La Union, which also issued a ruling that EFDI's complaint was bereft of a legal leg to stand on. All said there was no unfair competition to speak of in the subject Red Bull products on account of marked by an icon from the manufacturer itself, TCH.

Or it was a complaint on prior when Antice Businessperson Jose Vicente Salazar issued last June 23—when Justice Secretary Leila de Lima was said to be on leave—a resolution ordering the Legazpi City Prosecutor's Office to set aside its earlier ruling dismissing EFDI's complaint and to file criminal charges against TCH and MDI. What's going on here?

TCH and MDI have filed a motion for reconsideration of De Lima's office. The ball is now in her court.

The Wayward Bilibid Prisoners in Muntinlupa City is like a slum. Prisoners come and go as they wish. Bobby Go's absence was noticed only because he is a high-profile prisoner. It is possible that there are unknown prisoners who have escaped without anybody noticing.

That Bobby Go was kidnapped I find hard to believe, even with an alleged P1-million ransom demanded. Why would anybody kidnap a prisoner with a long jail sentence? There are so many other victims to choose from. Why choose a prisoner?

The irony is that Go could have been released soon. He was also the parole for good behavior. Now all of that is gone. Said move years will be added to his sentence.

The case of Go is a good example of the danger of gun possession. I am sure Go had no intention of shooting anyone when he decided to get a handgun. Gun owners always say the gun is only for their protection. And I am sure that is really their intention.

But having a gun does something to a person. Ask any psychiatrist and he will tell you that a does. The gun owner becomes cruel, dumb, crafty, aggressive, and sure to anger. Or see all, he has egos.

There's another thing. In a confrontation, there is the urge for the gun owner to get it out, not necessarily to shoot (he other party), but to scare him. There's what a gun is for, he thinks. That's the point of the gun. When the "enemy" does not back down and even seems him with "Gay ginyak mo?" (Go ahead, pull the trigger), thinking he wouldn't shoot, the gun owner is taken it would be a sign of cowardice and a loss of face if he himself backs down and doesn't use his gun. Therefore, even if he doesn't want to shoot he is forced by the circumstance to pull the trigger "to prove to his boss" "It is his fault for coaxing me, he reasons to himself.

And that's the case of the case of his whole life, with a long wait and a long prison sentence.

Look at Bobby Go. He was a successful businessman with a nice future. There was day he met Elton Magsaysay on a one-way street in Cantabello.

There was an argument and because he had a gun, Go pulled it and shot Magsaysay. That was probably further from his mind when he got the gun. It he didn't have the gun, Magsaysay would still be alive today and Go would not be in prison. The worst that could have happened was Cantabello, black eyes and torn shirt. Even if they used each other, the spectators would most likely just be a fine. But because Go had a gun, look what happened to him and to Magsaysay.

The same thing has happened to many other people now in prison. I am sure each is now sorry that he decided to get a gun—"to protect himself."

The series of multiple killings in the United States was caused by the easy of its rules on gun possession. The Magsaysay massacre here has been possible because of the available of guns. Gun possession is a problem that is growing when we will be like America, now called the murder capital of the world. It is time to wake up and pass laws that would tighten the rules on gun possession.

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Sober, rational and still Catholic about RH

Passion for Reason

Raul C. Pangalangan

GIVEN THE heated arguments, maybe the title should end with a question mark. Is it possible to be sober, rational and truthful about reproductive health (RH), and still be a good Catholic? If, for some, actually sensible policy-making, it's rather was perfect of the bedlam in his chaired days at Senate (and members as well of the Legislature) and he would not need anything knew from his cabinet was who chose to study the issue without in Dilimon peoples) he gotten communists.

We must confine the debate to what the philosopher John Rawls called "public reason." Rawls showed: still on people to use every their "comprehensive doctrines" to argue—like Aquinas—in order for a policy to be enacted in a public forum, they should advance those beliefs in terms that are accessible to everyone.

In relation to RH, we should exclude arguments based on a specific religion, such as those made by the congressman who proclaimed on the floor of Congress that when the 1987 Constitution says "No. On sovereign Filipino people, employing One aid of Almighty God. ..." it refers "only to the Catholic God." So what does RH make of the millions of Muslim Filipinos? Islam has a great deal of the "sovereign Filipino people," yet make them invoke our God instead of Bridge? Good heavens.

Given the religiously charged debate on reproductive health, public reason demands that any argue—as we try to complete to people of all faiths. When Catholic and RH crusaders invoke the Bible, they would only with their fellow believers, but not to nonbelievers. How would Catholics feel if Muslims invoked certain verses against them?

Admittedly, in some questions—"When does life begin?"—an expert would religion, because says the moment of "implantation," the Catholic Church, "fertilization." So for this debate, let us focus on the non-controversial, that percents for fertilization (regardless, contraception. To other words, if the birth-up cell object exist when there is no fertilized egg at all, then it means they're not really being vandal with us. The anti-RH debater is correct to challenge us to distribute the birth-control pill as "abortifacient." Then we can debate the science of when life begins.

But let's assume that the fertilized egg is a person. Is contraception the moral equivalent of abortion? Is the pill the same as killing a baby? Not even the Catholic Church says so. Its Catechism (No. 2370) states that "periodic continence, the methods based on self-observation and recourse to infertile periods are in conformity with objective criteria of the moral order." Why? Because "these methods respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and are favorable to the education of a genuine freedom."

Hence, the Church allows the rhythm method, which is based on the woman's menstrual cycle. Why is that not an abortifacient? Because the rhythm method does not prevent fertilization. It merely prevents implantation. Yet the Church allows it.

Why, then, does it condemn the pill? Because it is "intrinsically evil," which means that it is always wrong, regardless of the circumstances. Even if the pill prevents implantation, it is still wrong because it is "contrary to the truth of conjugal love." Why? Because it "separates the unitive and procreative meanings of the conjugal act." Because it "contradicts the marital union and the call to be life-giving parents."

Sorry, but I'm not buying that. Sex is not always about procreation. Sex is also about love. Sex is also about pleasure. Sex is also about bonding. Sex is also about intimacy. Sex is also about fun. Sex is also about relaxation. Sex is also about stress relief. Sex is also about exercise. Sex is also about sleep. Sex is also about health. Sex is also about beauty. Sex is also about youth. Sex is also about vitality. Sex is also about longevity. Sex is also about happiness. Sex is also about satisfaction. Sex is also about fulfillment. Sex is also about completion. Sex is also about wholeness. Sex is also about oneness. Sex is also about unity. Sex is also about communion. Sex is also about communication. Sex is also about connection. Sex is also about relationship. Sex is also about love.

Sex is also about procreation. Sex is also about babies. Sex is also about children. Sex is also about family. Sex is also about parenthood. Sex is also about motherhood. Sex is also about fatherhood. Sex is also about grandparenthood. Sex is also about generations. Sex is also about legacy. Sex is also about inheritance. Sex is also about continuity. Sex is also about immortality.

Sex is also about pleasure. Sex is also about bonding. Sex is also about intimacy. Sex is also about fun. Sex is also about relaxation. Sex is also about stress relief. Sex is also about exercise. Sex is also about sleep. Sex is also about health. Sex is also about beauty. Sex is also about youth. Sex is also about vitality. Sex is also about longevity. Sex is also about happiness. Sex is also about satisfaction. Sex is also about fulfillment. Sex is also about completion. Sex is also about wholeness. Sex is also about oneness. Sex is also about unity. Sex is also about communion. Sex is also about communication. Sex is also about connection. Sex is also about relationship. Sex is also about love.

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Comments to pasa@philippinesunion@gmail.com

Rain and floods: managing the human footprint

THERE WAS no storm over Manila in the second week of August. But why was there so much rain? Why was the flooding so severe?

When it comes to tropical cyclones, the Philippines sits within the planet's "ground zero." In, it is to be expected that these "monsoons" of rain and wind hit with intensity the third industrial nation. Hence we can expect typhoons. Yes, the worst was not Agnes. These typhoons, however, generate the forces that drive and enhance other weather systems such as the southwest monsoon—i.e., habagat. In combination, these two systems serve as the "delivery system" for wind, intense rain and extreme weather. This will continue as Southwest MWF study on the Coral Triangle and climate change, released in 2009, says that storms are likely to intensify.

Historically, most typhoons entering the Philippines come from the Pacific Ocean. Over the last four years, however, we have seen extreme weather systems develop in the West Philippine Sea. Although this was not a frequently occurring situation 10 or 20 years ago, the West Philippine Sea is now occasionally warm enough to for a spinning area for a phenomenon called tropical depression. This is the birth of storms. The presence of Pengasuan has experimental this, first hand. With global warming, we should not be surprised if this is happening. If we accept all this as plausible, then we should not be surprised to see "enhancements" of other weather systems—such as Lando, which developed in the Coral Triangle and climate change, released in 2009, says that storms are likely to intensify.

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COMMENTARY

Jose Ma. Lorenzo Tan

Large cities, especially when poorly planned and managed, create 'heat islands' that aggravate weather impacts

land subsidence from excessive groundwater extraction. But is due to human activity—poor planning, political gridlock, carelessness or negligence in urban development, can be quite significant. Of course, the issue of the problem here is to do with management.

Like most megacities in Asia, Metro Manila has adopted the long outdated Western development model referred to as "the urban sprawl." Megacities that extensively convert porous and water-absorbent land to impervious expanses of concrete generate a tremendous amount of heat. When land conversion and real estate development are allowed to grow in a haphazard manner, it only makes things worse. "Urban heat islands" are opportunities that intensify the storm cycle. They are "engines" that drive in and enhance weather systems such as cyclones, low-pressure areas and the monsoon. In some cases, they have been known to spawn local tornadoes. We are "flat right" as Quezon City just last year, where severe hailstorms were reported to have been badly affected.

This is not rocket science. There have been many papers written on models of these cities—such as Beijing, Tokyo, Mumbai, Kuala Lumpur and Hanoi—all invested igniting this untold phenomenon. These studies are all freely available on the Web. Essentially all of these have come to the same conclusion. Large urbanized cities, especially when poorly planned and managed, tend to become "heat islands." That over to aggravate weather impacts. In a climate defined former, these changes in times of concentrated, risk. Will this continue? Will it get worse? Well, this time, it's up to us. Only humans can manage the human footprint.

Climate change changes everything. The mankind created it. The haphazardly built megacities of Asia are aggravating it. Metro Manila's garbage mess and woefully inadequate transport system just make it worse. We started it. We can stop it. It's up to us putting fingers at the intersection. As a nation, we have to stop talking of solutions, and start moving forward on workable solutions. The solution will be complex, and so they must be conducted at an integrated issue are balanced the decisions will not be easy. But we have to choose. We only have one Philippines, such an planet.

Jose Ma. Lorenzo Tan is vice chair, president and CEO of World of Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Philippines. He also serves as chair of the Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation. He has written and published a number of books, including "The Last Great Forest" and "A Field Guide to Whales and Dolphins in the Philippines," which both received awards.

Youth and experience

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

D-TEST with the end of the Liberal Party's laptop, Bam Aquino and Tomas "Sen" Magsaysay will be locked in a senatorial slug-out next year.

Just 35 years old, Bam doesn't remember personally meeting his uncle Ninoy Aquino, since brother of his father Butz (left, this hasn't prevented people, including the columnist, from commenting repeatedly on Bam's eminently resemblance to his uncle. His parents tell him that when he was a toddler, he was brought to Fort Bonifacio along with other Aquino relatives to visit with Ninoy. But he was only an infant then—too inconsequential and too young for any prepped and brought around to deliver speeches. But his mama lives, who campaigned for her father before Ninoy was allowed to leave the country, narrates by his mother. He was one when the Edsa Revolt took place, and so there is a lot of Bam's life that he knows is presented for him by Edsa and members of the Facebook generation" to look it. Seems out.

In contrast, the Magsaysay, 73, has, in his youth, been there, done that. He has served in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, as governor of Zambales and in the private sector, Sen. admits that "I've been out of public television" in the country, and continues to serve on the boards of various business, civic, educational and nongovernmental organizations. Why would he want to return to the topsy-turvy world of politics? He'll be in 2013 if he is asked. "Because now, under the leadership of P-Noy, I can sense a real possibility for fundamental change. I can trust his sincerity and his strong political will. When Chief Justice Renato Corona was impeached by a vote of 20-3, I told myself that P-Noy must be God-sent," he told the ladies and gentlemen of the "Bulong Pulungan sa Solihi."

* * *

FIRST in a interesting tidbit about Bam. He was given the nickname—taken from "Bambam," the comic-strip character with a cartoon—from two **Fred and Wilma Flintstone**—by his two older brothers. He was an outstanding student leader (I first interviewed him when he was a college student **senator** of an exchange program) who chose to parlay his management engineering degree for Ateneo de Manila into government service and MBA work. He was at head of the National Youth Commission in memorable to him months because this is when he met his future wife, who was a volunteer. They will marry in September.

Those days, the main thrust of Bam's advocacy and fund-raising is entrepreneurial development with the "Kapatiran" Foundation that binds organized staff develops a network of women, new out-door ventures, while working with the Negosyo to develop young entrepreneurs. Clearly, youth and women empowerment is Bam's particular calling. When he succeeded his cousin, P-Noy, and, among other political and civic figures he respects, about entering the political field, the latter warned him that "this kind of life is hard." And he admits that while he, and his future wife, are victims of politics' pull-to-the challenges "enabled and dare" he knows they are also in for a rude awakening, but if you ask me, the fact that a young man of Bam's promise and idealism still wants to make a difference, despite his family paying, even the ultimate price all those years, is a harbinger of a bright future.

* * *

JIM Magsaysay was just 16, an otherwise common college student, when his father, the great RM, perished in an airplane crash. "My father was very strict about separating official funds from his personal ones," he recalls, and after his father's death the family found to its dismay that it had an outrageous spread of tax owed to him.

While family and political friends pooled money to raise a home for the Magsaysay, the 16 little Brothers lost no time spending hours scheming to complete his engineering course. So he has no college-level degree for his career, while. This is a debt Jim has sought to repay by serving in various boards of the La Salle system through the years, and while he was a senator, he launched the "Like-it or Magsaysay" program, which funded the studies of thousands of young people.

Jim's advice to most young folk about the soft-spoken, almost shy businessman-politician is that despite the many years in the "dirty" world of national politics, he has kept his name clean. Through the years, he has earned a reputation for honesty and integrity even if in the course of his political service, he has been embroiled in numerous rash controversies. This includes investigating the infamous "fertilizer scam" that involved Joc-joc Bolante, a friend of then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's husband, and, by inference, the then First Couple themselves.

In these eras we have Aquino and Jim Magsaysay may anchor both ends of the political spectrum, but on terms of idealism, performance, and support for reform, they are to the point place, two men who love the country and do it good.

* * *

HOW the first time in the 60 years of existence, Mar Lakad, an annual exercise in civic spirit meant to raise funds for out-of-school youth, will also be hosted by four outstanding civic clubs.

The 2012 Alay Lakad kicks off on Sept. 2 with the theme "Kaunti Kalibang ng Marangyan, Kapalaran ng Kabataan" (Every Step of the Journey, the Welfare of the Youth). The clubs hosting the event are Rotary District 3810 headed by Gov. Ismael Reynado, Kiwanis headed by Gov. Honorio Ong, Lions District 301-A-1 headed by Gov. Ruth Chua, and Lions District 301-A-2 headed by Gov. Primitivo Pena and Jr. Governor headed by outgoing president Ramon Ivan Barte. All governors serve as chairs of the national coordinating committee.

Proceeds of the fund-raising campaign will benefit the out-of-school youth through educational assistance, skills training and livelihood programs.

Native trees

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

ate the trees of Area 2 in the University of the Philippines' Diliman campus where my parents had lived, but I recall having a love-crush from an early age on the Philippine Women's College tree. There was an avenue of the graceful trees that crossed over the roadways like leaves used to arrange the gate and pass in our kitchen. There was nature's tree in a neighbor's yard whose branches crossed over the wall into our own yard and provided my mother with nourishment. When the neighbors complained, my mother replied that the branches were trespassing on our property and that the fruit allowed to be picked and eaten by her.

Many years later when my parents had gone up to the world, we moved from the noise and dust of Edsa to the quiet, gated community called Forbes Park that had trees everywhere. Trees in the streets' sense. Apple, Banaba, Ipil, Molave, Lanzberg, Santa, Bel and Tanguile. Our gardener did not bother my mango trees of the apple and balete varieties that were required by my mother that we had to remember from cleaning the birds or poisoning the fruit with fruit fly bait for the fruit to be fit for eating. Even a dalisay tree tucked away in the back of the property that produced the biggest, sweetest fruit I have known—again all unsuccessful to my mother who claimed it was a measly tree for diabetics. Then there was the kamatsile tree on another side of the property whose enormous fruit aroused our kids' curiosity by the property to be promptly picked by his security guards and boundary lady. This was my mother's favorite all the time she held court on Queens Day neighbor's years ago.

When I moved to drive, I discovered that streets named after trees were not confined to Forbes Park but were also found elsewhere in Makati, Bagumbayan, Kamagong, Balagtas and Caimito. When I went to college, I found trees in Quezon City streets like Kamuning and name UP Avenue like Sikkid and Narra.

There's the delicacies now displayed in delicate fruit and lowered its timbre to save me the pit of wondering for Durio. On sweet sweet, the scented and honeyed tempo, the pink mango composted to see forgotten. Further west, the cocoa, the lamb has flowered sassy, the branched connection. Equally the sweet and the sour delightful to the palate. Here the papaya spread its broad leaves measuring hands with its enormous fruit. There the mangos, the cashews, and the sarsaya, that graduated the air with the aroma of their flowers. On this side are the tea, the hibiscus, the guava with the fruit's foliage and lovely flowers that endure the years. Here and there were found elegant and majestic palms as loaded with large nuts, swaying its proud crown and bountiful trunk, the treasures of the forest. Ah! It would be endless if I were to mention the all our trees that surround us, myself in nostalgia!

Many of the trees described by Ethel above are foreign trees. Philippine trees have been disappearing since his time, and only down the avenue had lush, first found a home in their branches. Many described the birds in their backyard. "The birds are gone," he says, "the trees of different species, the color, the native ones. Our beaches, all the species of pipit."

We rarely see birds in the city today, or students and families that roam part of childhood memories if Philippine trees are propagated, then the forest and ecosystem will not just be a memory but will come alive again.

* * *

Comments are welcome at my Facebook Fan Page.

Generics, cigarettes

THE AUSTRALIAN High Court, the equivalent of our Supreme Court, made a landmark ruling on Wednesday upholding a law requiring the same ultra-bronze plain packaging for all cigarette brands. This means no colors or logos, and the brand name appearing in a small generic font. Large graphic health warnings, already found on cigarette packs, will still appear on the new plain packaging.

Advocates of plain packaging are convinced this will be a major step to reduce cigarette consumption. The existing colorful cigarette packs, sometimes with deceptive wording like "gold mild," entice young people to take up smoking and push smokers to use more of the tobacco.

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

Australia passed a law last year requiring the plain packaging, but cigarette companies took the case to court, saying the law was unconstitutional because it "expropriated" their brands and logos without compensation. The High Court upheld the constitutionality of the law, which will take effect on Dec. 1.

Antismoking activists throughout the world consider this High Court ruling a major victory, and hope other countries will take similar action. I know it's unlikely we'll have cigarettes in the near future, but I thought I'd write about this issue to show how advertising strategies, including packaging, impacts public health.

Plain, low-status

The plain-packaging policy was first proposed to vote in 1994 in New Zealand, where a government commission recommended that cigarettes be produced only in plain white packages. In the 1990s, a Canadian parliamentary committee also proposed different and less appealing packaging and concluded that there was enough evidence that plain packaging would reduce tobacco consumption.

Since no country has yet implemented plain packaging, the research conducted on this topic has been experimental, where research participants were asked to give their views on cigarette packaging, including how they would react to it. Some young adolescent plain packages made them feel more negative, both toward the pack and smoking itself. Users tried to hide or cover their plain packs, smiled less when they were with other people, and even thought more about quitting.

The Australian High Court ruling was released just as I was planning to write about an intriguing new study we have to see among young Americans published in the July 31 issue of the Disease Control's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. The report notes that cigarette consumption has been declining but that in the past few years cigar consumption has increased. The authors of the report note that cigars are not subject to FDA (Food and Drug Administration) regulations, which means there are tasted in lower rates and are therefore cheaper and more affordable for young people. Cigar companies also don't produce health warnings, and get away with misleading descriptions on their packaging like "light" and "low tar." I checked if Australia plans to have cigars in plain packaging as well.

Tobacco companies have resisted strongly against plain packaging, citing all kinds of arguments from the packages being unconstitutional to the policy possibly leading to counterfeit products. There have even been arguments that because of the plain packages, cigarette prices would drop, and therefore encourage smoking.

Consumer activists this agenda know only too well that other industries prevent legislation, it's mainly because it cuts down on their profits. The arguments that cigarette companies now against plain packaging sound exactly like those used by drug companies when the Philippines, in a more consumer-friendly government, approved generic drugs. This was back in 1992, when a law was passed requiring companies never to name, threatening advantage in medicines and requiring about counterfeit products. Among the provisions of the law was an important one about packaging. The generic name of the drug will appear prominently with the brand name below it. The rationale for this policy on quality is that the brand name is often used to mislead consumers—i.e., that there is no interchangeably recognized generic name for each medicine, which is their produced under different brand names with widely varying prices. The idea here was for consumers to learn to see through the hype of advertising, and to never stray from brand-name brands.

The Generic Law passed and a market for low-cost generic drugs has grown through the years, as well as people's awareness of medicines. Progress has been slow, but our Generic Law is still internationally hailed as a piece of model legislation.

The generic drugs policy was intended to promote affordable medicines for consumers. The plain cigarette law is different. The Australian government argues that it has the right to regulate cigarettes like other products that are harmful to human health—such as cat poison. If couldn't help but think, though, that my poison package can be quite powerful.)

Young smokers

There's a sense of rising against time in all these antismoking efforts. Every year, the Global Youth Tobacco Survey conducted a nationally survey of students in our among students from Grades 8 to 12 aged about 12 to 16, learning that about 18 percent of adult smokers in that country are known to begin smoking before the age of 18, and that the tobacco habit translates to 443,000 deaths there from cigarette (and, I presume, cigar) smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke.

Antismoking campaigners in many parts of the Philippines have been making headway, but are constantly reminded of grim statistics, seeing young people, sometimes even children, smoking. Even at the University of the Philippines, young students are still picking up the habit, and Saturday is, something every year under "No Smoking" signs. (A Civil Service Commission directive actually requires all government institutions, including the state university of UP—and all state universities, to be smoke-free, meaning there should not even be a smoking area.)

Smoking remains glamorous, and colorful packages—the designs are products of expensive marketing research—contribute to their appeal to young people. The addiction itself is powerful, and the tobacco industry has a huge consumer base of losing clue, mainly of business, even "rich" (the wrong thing that is the upper classes who are dropping the habit in larger numbers).

Those interested in looking up the journal articles on plain packaging research can visit the site, http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/1466/. Or read about today on our amazing young humorists, go to www.sun.ndu.gov and do a search for "BOBBY, winner high school 2011."

* * *

E-mail: mtan@inquirer.com.ph

Choice needs lots of thinking

LETTERS

"BAHAMIAN" was the moniker given to students any attendee when I was in the University of the Philippines in Diliman in the 1960s. I remained a "Bahamian" until I finished my BS Mechanical Engineering in 1970.

During those years, though, my circle of friends grew wider—not only with fellow "Bahamians" but with many fun ones as well. I had friends from Alpha Phi Beta and Sigma Rho, Upsilon Sigma Phi, Beta Sigma, Beta Epsilon. This Alpha and, of course, Alpha Phi Omega.

Among the things we did together were, "disappear is happy" bonfire of sports while singing contest, allnight or four songs with guitar accompaniment, pitted billiards and bowling at the IP Recreation Center, debated polars, flash cards or hockey "if" to see women, or just eat the meals going to the Main Library from "1" to "10" during our off-hours, which was most of the time.

It really makes me laugh looking back to the first three years of time in UP when our main concern—along with Manong Alfonso "Boy" Bustos, a Sigma Rhoan—is merely not to get "Kicked Out—UP!"

The two saddest victims of fraternity hazing cited by "Show" in her open letter (other 11 year-old are were mere classes and acquaintances of mine.

Ben Edward Tolentino was my classmate in Kindergarten in San Fernando City, La Union, and one of the officers of the Alpha Phi Omega during the saddest year we were there. Bernie Tolentino was high school buddy—not me, able to finish his degree at UP as a consequence of Bernie's demise.

Roland Perez of the Upsilon Sigma Phi was my housemate in Pedro at Elsa Jones's place behind the UP Cooperative there. He was a close friend of Bernie Tolentino after the Lovely author Dax Pastrilla in 1968. Ironically, an older brother of Roland belonged to the Beta Sigma.

During those days the fraternities gave a lot of color to life in UP like supporting UP teams in the University Athletic Association of the Philippines, parties, pageants, putting to extreme-like hazings, debates, elections—and entertaining the "bahamians" during the occasional vacation between times.

Many of the excellent products of UP in my days are from cities—like Tarlac, Dagupan, Bacolod, Baguio, Alabang, et al.

The fraternities then had different standards of initiation for admission of members. Many had combinations of mental and physical tests in varying states. To evaluate the physical component to see if/how the prospect was even done always a topic of debates. And now we know legislation on antihazing, but like many of the laws on the land, the gap is in the enforcement, maybe.

To join a fraternity or not is a choice that needs a lot of consideration.

—JOSEPH L. DUBOC, JR.,BSME, UP 1970,
MM (Public Administration), UP 1982,
joeduboc40@yahoo.com

Bloodshed victims mostly ordinary people

No, Almighty is beyond our reach and/or absolute power, even justice and great wealth, to deserve approval. (Job 37:23)

It is now 10 months—from October 2011 to the present, three members of journalist, media who were reported in the island of Basilan. These claimed a total of 17 precious lives and more than 40 critically injured. Most victims were civilian passengers involved, guards, and ordinary citizens who go to their work early in the morning just to earn their family's daily keep. Some were husbands to wives, committed Church and community workers and fathers of now-orphaned children. Again, last July 13, another Basilan ambush took eight lives.

Stop all the bloodshed in Basilan! The Christian shall see this as condemning these senseless violences and ideologies disregard for the value of life—like condemning deception of armed soldiers, political swindlings and economic glamour that perpetuate the society of Basilan.

"My concern about is stalemate: "What have you done? to protect and grant justice to the people?

We question the military: Why are our people caught in the pools of the bullets?

Oh ask the Church: What have we done to the objects of the people and appointees by power?

We, civilian elitist armed groups in Basilan as you each brothers and sisters!

We call on all the servants of the communities in Basilan to condemn this act not despite all fear that those savages at large groups spread to punish to the people.

Let us all, including, the unarmed civilian passengers three buses who initiated three unconscious acts.

Let us all be steadfast in our faith and stand our ground in the power of concerted God, who says that His love is the true strength of the evil of this world.

Say pray for the souls of the victims that their God lives in the glory of paradise, let us pray for the members whom the mothers, fathers, children, and siblings of the victims in this time of pain. We pray that truth justice be granted to the victims, let us not allow evil to take over us.

—REUEL EDDIE BALBAG,
Pastor,
Jesus Is Lord Evangelistic Church,
Christian Missionaries,
Philippines Province, Quezon City

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*Based on GAIKPI reports.
Per ETI-NCR Period No. 1401, series of 2012

Use of Facebook letter in report questioned

I HAVE just seen a news item under the byline of Jeremy Jaime. Titled "Upheld independence in bad justice choice, SC told" (Inquirer, 8/11/12), the article quotes some of letters I sent to the Judicial and Bar Council on the exercise of its constitutional independence.

I was never consulted by Jaime, nor was my prior consent obtained by him, before parts of that letter were selectively cited in that article and released to me. The letter was shared with friends and colleagues, but did not authorize its release to any media whatsoever. I purposely declined interviews or any requests for media releases of that letter, because the letter is precisely and deliberately worded to its contents; and I did not want any editing of its contents.

May I therefore request the Inquirer to exercise subscribing to the highest standards of journalistic ethics, and avoid a public embarrassment or misunderstanding. At least to the JBC was published without any prior consent, knowledge, or consideration. I trust that the Inquirer would accept this fair and reasonable request.

—ATTY. MARK DEREDUTO,
[illegible]
Pilipinas Transparency Advocacy
[illegible]

First of all, lawyer Duaso's letter is a public statement addressed to a government agency. I obtained it from the JBC's copy of Duaso's letter via Facebook. From legitimate news sources, including the spokesperson of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, staff of the Supreme Court public information office (which handles media inquiries for the SBC), and other lawyers' groups and individuals monitoring the nomination process for chief justice. There, as per Inquirer guidelines on the publication, reporting and use of resources from who financial and other illegal activities, the letters were in fact by and verified and edited subject to space constraints.

Secondly, the letter was already circulating via the social networking sites for more than 24 hours. The Facebook statements of rights and responsibilities clearly states: "When you publish content or information using the Public setting, it means that you are allowing everyone, including people off of Facebook, to access and use that information, and to associate it with you (i.e., your name and profile picture)."

The Inquirer report did not include a disclaimer at the time of its Facebook posting at around 1:54 p.m. on Aug. 9, 2012, under the Public sharing setting, even if it did, that would have been negated by Facebook's terms.

The good lawyer must have overlooked or assumed the "Public" visibility status of her post on Aug. 11. It was only at around 3 p.m. the same day when she posted on her status update her belated disclaimer regarding unauthorized use.

—JEREMY JAIME,
reporter, Inquirer

GSIS staff delaying release of burial benefit

I AM my wife, Loreto (Loring) Floriano Dolino, our both retired employees of the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP) with who confirmed at the Social Security and Medical Center, Mandaluyong City, and died on Sept. 9, 2012.

On Dec. 21, 2012, filed my claims to her burial benefit with the Government Service Insurance System. I was informed by Data Bill Status. I submitted to late my postal ID and my wife's death certificate duly notified by the Municipal Treasurer Office. I didn't complete the required submissions because the GSIS has also ID duplicate copies of the records—I'd even to reinstate employee/retirees. Besides, I told Ina (in-law) retired. Then she asked me to sign the burial benefit claim and handed me the retirement slip.

I wonder why once more the GSIS has not released my claim. Something wrong must be going on here. GSIS employees should remember that their salaries come from GSIS members.

So, now I call the attention of GSIS president Robert Vergara for him to take steps against those who "take pleasure" in stabilishing or delaying the release of financial benefits.

And to say, since July 1996 until my retirement, I was the designated UP-DOE representative in the conferment of GSIS members in Quezon City and Makati City. As such, one of my functions was to ensure the delivery of UP-PGH's monthly remittance checks to their member. My service record, a copy of which the GSIS has, is enough corroboration that I'm not a fake claimant.

—VICENTE B. DOLINO,
[illegible]
Barangay Pulahan, Municipality of [illegible]

Military 'asset,' 5 other suspects charged with Geertman's murder

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The fiancé of slain Dutch non-governmental organization worker Wilhelmus M. Jan G. Geertman on Thursday filed a murder case against a supposed military asset and five other suspects in the July 3 killing of Geertman.

Senior Inspector Ebol the complaint against Marvin Marcos, Ronald de Guzman and four unidentified suspects at the Office of the State Prosecutor here.

The complainant described Marcos as the "asset" of one Lt. Col. Tolentino of the military intelligence branch of the Philippine Army.

Joseph Gladstone Jacob, fiancé of the Alay Bayan-Luzon Inc. (ABL), where Geertman worked as executive director, said pieces of information gathered by his group showed that Marcos, also known as Joshua, was the "brains and planner" of the killing.

> 'Reducing it to robbery with homicide camouflages the political killing'

Geertman

Cariño said the same pieces of information that led to retired General that one Senador Vitol Mistrigo de la Cruz was the man who shot Geertman. He said the group suspected that this man was the one identified in the complaint as Harold de la Cruz.

Geertman was shot and killed by two men at noon of July 3 after refusing to flee MPD officers from a bank after withdrawing money.

The case is separate from the robbery and homicide case that the police filed on the city prosecutor's office on July 16. De la Cruz, who has yet to be arrested, is the main suspect in this case.

Lawyer Edre Olalia, secretary general of the National Union of People's Lawyers (NUPL), said Santiago filed the murder case because she did not agree with the findings of the police.

"Reducing it to robbery with homicide camouflages the political killing," Olalia said.

"At this minimum, [the other case] could be a result of sloppy police work or at the maximum, we have different appreciations of the evidence," he added.

Geertman had worked for over 40 years in the Philippines, devoting much of those years on projects that helped farmers and indigenous peoples in Aurora province secure land ownership, improve production, store history and defend the environment.

Treachery

The killing, Olalia noted, has elements of "treachery and evident premeditation."

The murder complaint that Tan withstood who said that Geertman, 67, raised his hands in an act of pleading with two gunmen to spare his life.

Santiago, supported by five NUPL lawyers, filed the murder case on the same day of the preliminary hearing of the robbery-homicide case that police filed.

State Prosecutor Philip Ty-India was expected to consolidate the two cases for a hearing on Aug. 28. —Danielle Dreza, Inquirer Central Luzon

HUMAN rights activists walk in front of the Justice Hall of the City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to demand justice for Geertman.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. III

August 07, 2012

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

	Name and Address of Proposed Employer	Name and Citizenship of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Functions
1.	TG IM OPTICAL ELECTRONICS, INC. [illegible]	Mr. Yeongbeak Kwon [illegible]	Service Trainer
2.	GOSHU - LA - CPL MFG. CORP. [illegible]	Mr. Kazuaki Goto [illegible]	Engineer
3.	IM OPTICAL PHIL., INC. [illegible]	Mr. Yong Il Kang [illegible]	Office Supervisor and Technical Team Manager
4.	KOBELCO WELDING CORPORATION [illegible]	Mr. Tanahiro Ishii [illegible]	Plant Operator
5.	TAKAOKA AUTOMOTIVE PARTS (CEBU) INC. [illegible]	Mr. Hisa Sato [illegible]	Site Manager
6.	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC WIRING SYSTEMS (PHILS.), INC. [illegible]	Mr. Shigeki Nakashima [illegible]	Plant Operation Manager
7.	MITSUBA INDUSTRIES (PHILIPPINES), INC. [illegible]	Mr. Takashi Nakata [illegible]	General Manager - Production Control
8.	MITSUBA INDUSTRIES (PHILIPPINES), INC. [illegible]	Mr. Shunsuke Yasui [illegible]	Production Control Manager

[illegible]

BAIDY ARIOLA CEDEÑO
OIC-Regional Director

Assistant Editor Nina Bongcaras

Across the NATION

Malaria epidemic declared in Davao Sur town

DIGOS CITY—The health office of Davao del Sur has declared a malaria epidemic in one town in the province's other 10 municipalities, the municipality's become decrease following days of monsoon rains.

Rita Davalos, malaria control coordinator of Davao del Sur, said the epidemic was declared in Asin Abid Santa town after 60 residents, including children, contracted malaria.

Davalos said that while only one village, Medan, was suffering from a spike in the number of malaria cases, the provincial health office decided to declare an epidemic in the town to prompt town officials to act immediately to prevent the spread of the disease.

A malaria control team, according to Davalos, was sent to Asin Abid Santa, a coastal town in the western side of Davao del Sur, to help prevent the spread of malaria.

The team's main task, said Davalos, is to help residents recognize malaria in several days so the province could have led to an increase in mosquito population in Davao del Sur, said Davalos.

Mosquitoes are known to breed quickly in flooded or damp areas. *Brenden B. Dilao, Inquirer Mindanao*

Bishop: Lawlessness reigns in Basilan

ISABELA CITY—Lawlessness and government failure to stop it are driving the people of Basilan to hopelessness, according to the province's top Church leader.

Bishop Martin Jumoad, in a pastoral letter issued last Thursday, said fear is gripping the province and its people are losing hope that the cycle of violence that has become part of their daily lives will ever end.

Residents interviewed by the Inquirer agreed.

Michael Bello Santos, whose family owns a restaurant here, said he is forced to close for shop at 6 p.m. instead of the usual 10 p.m.

Delos Santos' father has been kidnapped by the Abu Sayyaf in December 2010 and is still in captivity.

Fear is evident everywhere in the province, said Delos Santos. "Shops, including those in the market, close as early as 6 p.m.," he said.

"Restaurants like ours that used to open until 10 p.m. now close at 6 p.m.," he said. The only a pitch black at night, he said.

The fear heightened following an explosion at the Isabela Cathedral on Monday. No one was hurt in the blast, but it became another reason for people to fear going out of their homes, according to another resident, Jessica Andalajao, a food vendor in the city market.

"Usually my last until 6 p.m. to sort out my goods at the stall, but because of the bombing here, I decided to close my stall at 5 p.m.," said Andalajao.

"After banners, the bombers might target the market," she said.

Bishop Jumoad said the people of Basilan are "anxious, restless and seemingly hopeless" over the province's worsening peace and order situation.

Basilan-born Police Senior said the lawless acts of violence in the province have to do with the province's worsening peace and order situation.

Basilan-born Police Senior said the lawless acts of violence in the province have to do with the province's worsening peace and order situation.

BASILAN Bishop Martin Jumoad blesses the coffin bearing the bodies of soldier plantation workers who were killed in ambushes by bandits

Lamitan on Aug. 5.

Msgr. Wenceslao, acting governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), said he will call for a meeting with provincial officials on the security situation in Basilan, which is part of ARMM.

Historians, however, said he did not believe that the environment in the province were related to each other.

Senior Insp. Kenneth Balisong, police chief of Lamitan City, said authorities are not sleeping on their jobs, announcing the arrest of a suspect in the 2001 massacre of rubber plantation workers in Basilan, Lamitan.

The suspect was identified as Jaddarul Abing Bakudan, believed to be a member of the bandit group Abu Sayyaf. *Julie Alipala, Inquirer Mindanao*

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Since 1963, ACDI/VOCA has empowered people in 145 developing and transitional nations to succeed in the global economy. ACDI/VOCA currently has an approximate of 90 projects in 40 countries and revenues of $143 million. We are seeking candidates for **Technical Specialists** for an anticipated multiyear maternal and child health program in Philippines. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of public and private organizations in the Philippines to deliver a comprehensive package of reproductive health and preventive maternal and child health services in Mindanao. The project will be based in Mindanao and these positions are contingent on ACDI/VOCA being awarded the program.

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- Familiarity with the Philippine health system and local culture is required; previous program management in the Philippines is strongly preferred

Family Planning/Maternal, Neonatal, Child Health and Nutrition (FP/MNCHN) Specialist:
- Advanced degree (at least master's level) in public health, medicine (M.D.), social sciences (such as medical anthropology), or other fields related to the concerns of the project.
- Demonstrated understanding and familiarity with issues faced by health workers involved in the provision of FP/MNCHN services, in either the public or the private sectors.

Behavior Change Communication (BCC) Specialist:
- Demonstrated understanding and familiarity with development communications issues and solutions, especially in public health.
- Demonstrated experience providing technical assistance to behavior change communications projects, with emphasis on US government funded health programs in the region

Training Manager
- At least 10 years of experience working on public health projects, with experience designing and conducting training activities.
- Demonstrated experience developing and delivering trainer curricula for training of trainers and technicians.

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- Minimum five years professional experience working in financial management, procurement and grants management experience useful. Experience working with QuickBooks preferred

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All applications must be received by August 20, 2012

Detainee's father pleads for medical tests for son

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—The father of an alleged communist rebel leader detained in Cebu Provincial City Jail has asked the government to allow his son to seek medical treatment for a kidney ailment.

In an open letter to concerned government agencies, the 79-year-old father of Reinares Acosta also appealed for the speedy resolution of his son's case.

"I write this letter of appeal to the jail warden, to the Department of Justice, to Human Secretary Leila de Lima, and to all other concerned branches of government," said Jesus Acosta, the detainee's father.

"I am an old man with an shortage of illnesses as expected of anyone my age, but I would gladly forfeit any trip to the doctor if it would only be traded for much-needed medical treatment for my son," said the letter.

Reinares, 37, a former editor of the Philippine Collegian, has been detained in a jail in Calbayog City since Feb. 16, 2011. Reinares' other brother was arrested by soldiers in Barangay Bacong in San Jorge town, Samar.

He is facing charges of illegal possession of explosives at the Regional Trial Court Branch 41 in Catbalogan town, Samar.

The army claimed that Acosta tried to draw a hand grenade from his pocket when soldiers intercepted him as he was about to board a motorboat in the Samar town proper.

The army alleged that Reinares was the deputy secretary of the Samar Provincial Party Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and a former member of the intelligence bureau of the National Democratic Front of the CPP.

But his family and lawyers said Reinares was carrying only tomatoes and personal belongings when he was arrested. They said he was in the area as a volunteer researcher of a local farmers' group.

Reinares's lawyers on July 19 filed a motion asking the court to allow him to undergo medical tests.

In the motion, his lawyers said Reinares was diagnosed in 2010 to be suffering a kidney ailment that could lead to permanent damage.

They said he was suffering from acute pain in the lower back and abdomen and urination blood sometimes.

The motion, however, remains pending when the judge handling Reinares's case returned for his vacation.

Some said he was not asking for special treatment for his son Reinares.

"What we demand is that Reinares and all other political prisoners who are sitting precisely because of dismal prison conditions also be accorded the right to medical attention as necessary," he said in his letter.

NEW NP MEMBER Ilchitan City Mayor Albert Bermudez takes his oath as member of the Nacionalista Party before Sen. Manny Villar, NP president, in simple rites witnessed by Bermudez's wife, Cristina.

THE CESSNA PLANE piloted by Yolanda Pinto crash-landed in the vineyards of Barangay Batcin in Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur

Plane bound for Davao crash-lands; pilot safe

STA. CRUZ, Davao del Sur—A four-seater Cessna plane crash-landed into the sea off Barangay Batcin here yesterday. No one was injured.

Senior Insp. Noel Villaluz-meos, Sta. Cruz deputy police chief, said the plane, with body number RPC 393, came from General Santos City and was on its way to Davao City past 8 a.m. when it suffered engine trouble.

Villaluzmeos said Yolanda Pinto, 60, the pilot, tried to land the plane at an air strip in Hagonoy town, but it didn't reach the town and instead fell into the waters off Barangay Batcin.

Pinto, the pilot, told Inquirer by text from flying alone to Davao City after taking off from Tacurong City when its fuel control malfunctioned.

The plane suffered damages when it hit the water, said Villaluzmeos. Pinto was unhurt, Orlando Diwa, Inquirer Mindanao

PILOT Yolanda Pinto, 60, safe and rested in Barangay Batcin after her plane crashed in waters off the village.

P-Noy told saving Sierra Madre solution to floods

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—In battling floods in Metro Manila and nearby provinces, it is not enough for government to dredge and widen rivers or build huge water traps. It must also save the Sierra Madre forests in Luzon by stopping logging, mining, quarrying and covering garbage dumps there.

Fr. Joe Montalban, chair of the Save Sierra Madre Network Alliance (SSMNA), suggested this in an open letter to President Aquino as the government "seemed to forget giving attention to the root of the floods—the indiscriminate destruction of the Sierra Madre."

Montalban, a Franciscan missionary said the protection of the mountain range is in line with Mr. Aquino's Proclamation No. 453, which declared every Sept. 20 the "Save Sierra Madre Day." Sierra Madre is regarded as the country's longest, biggest and most biologically diverse mountain range.

The proclamation, however, is not matched by action because corruption persists in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Montalbano said.

"In the appendix to you to change your DENR secretary, today groups have went to action from an exchange for the promise to deliver 5 million votes for your senatorial candidates for the 2013 elections," Montalbano said.

MONTALBAN

What lobby!

In a telephone interview on Thursday, Environment Secretary Ramon Paje said no such promise or lobby group exist. The DENR, he said, has been serious in protecting the country's forests, especially those in Sierra Madre.

Paje said the total log ban enforced through the President's Executive Order No. 23 was only to cover 1.68 million board feet of wood yearly which was the total volume formerly allowed to be cut by 150 companies holding integrated forest management agreements, or logging permits.

Four of the companies—Fabelo, Galimberti, San Roque and EOC—are based in the Sierra Madre but they have already operated long in Aurora and Isabela, Paje said.

The 197 illegal logging hotspots are down to 30, mostly in Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Compostela Valley, Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte, Quezon, Abra, Mountain, Ifugao Province and Negros Occidental.

"The Aquino administration has shown serious political will," Paje said. "What we can do is further beef up the enforcement of the PNPFD's logging Orders from and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00.

Any violator who have purchased harvesting documents shall be allowed to take a stated written questions clarifications.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever for unfavorable or incorrect actions by any unauthorized use of this publication.

The BSP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to declare the bidder failure, without any liability to the affected bidder or bidders. Furthermore, the BSP reserves the right to waive any minor defects or formality and to accept the proposal most advantageous to the agency.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO L. SUMARAGO
Chairman

BSP Aug. 17, 2012

Carabao logging

Paje said "carabao logging," or the use of carabaos to haul illegally cut trees, is not tolerated. The agency has filed more than 500 cases since 2010, owing sometimes to at least 72 cases in northern Luzon provinces like Isabela.

He has canceled 1,000 mining claims and not signed any mining contracts yet.

In the latest Environmental Performance Index conducted by the World Economic Forum, Emerging Economies, Yale University and Columbia University, the Philippines ran from the 50th place to 42nd among the "strong environment performers."

The announcement drew in the last two years has led to the dismissals of 12 DENR employees and the suspension of 21 others, he said. At least 172 more are being monitored and 60 others are being investigated, said Paje.

Inquirer Project, Inquirer Central Luzon

BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to apply for eligibility and submit for the following project:

Name of Project/Bid Description	Supply and Delivery of Three (3) Units Electronic Security Screening System (ESSS)
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	P10,000,000.00
Delivery Period	Within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after receipt of Notice to Proceed

Bidders should have completed a similar requirement specified and completed from CY2007 to present according to acceptable supply contract as the BAC. The Eligibility Check document as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

Interested bidders may obtain the Eligibility Requirements Checklist, Bid Specifications, Terms of Reference, Schedule of Requirements, Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification, Bid Form and Contract Form and the procurement of Bidding Documents from the BAC Secretariat, Mr. Rolando Ambrosio, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents pursuant to the latest Guidelines issued by the GPPB, in the amount stated below:

Activities	Schedules
Issuance of the Bidding Documents	Monday 17 August 2012 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. only
	Venue: Procurement Office, Ground Floor, Five Storey Building, A. Mabini corner P. Ocampo Sr. Streets, Malate, Manila
	Tel. No. 5062000 Fax No. 5307153
1. Pre-bid conference	10:00 AM, Friday, 24 September 2012
2. Deadline of Bids	2:00 PM, Friday, 28 September 2012
3. Bid Evaluation	Three working days after the prescribed period allowed in the submission of bids
4. Post-qualification	
5. Notice of Award(s)	

The BSP and Republic of the Philippines are hereby exempted from the payment of the Philippine Value-Added Tax/Goods and Services Tax (VAT/GST) and the GST Waiver clause (as applicable). The complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from the contact person indicated above upon presentation of the PhilGEPS Registration Certificate and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00.

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Sotto promise: Sponsors will hardly recognize RH bill

By Cathy C. Yamsuan

WHEN the smoke clears in the Senate after a looming showdown, proponents of the reproductive health (RH) bill will hardly recognize the original measure they had introduced in the chamber.

That's a promise by Senate Majority Leader Vicente Sotto, who has starred a series of four speeches opposing on the floor the measure espoused by Sen. Pia Cayetano. He is through with two speeches.

Sotto said he would finish his last two speeches and Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile would complete his interpellation next week.

The Senate will then move to the period of amendments that the House of Representatives embarked on Tuesday but was having difficulty getting off and running because of delaying tactics by the bill's opponents.

"I do not know if we can still recognize the bill after all this," Sotto told the lawyers in a phone interview.

Contentious features

The showdown on the RH bill would center on whether or include in the final copy "essential" but contentious features that might already be edited in the House version, Sotto said, adding that the Senate bill would agree with the position in the lower house excluding contraceptives in the list of "essential medicines."

"The amendments would include the deletion of any reference to abortion," Sotto said.

In particular, he mentioned a part of Section 3 Letter L of the bill: "The government shall ensure that all women needing care for postabortion complications shall be treated and counselled in a humane, nonjudgmental and compassionate manner."

He said the provision could be seen as a tacit invitation to women to have an abortion since they would be guaranteed government support in case the operation is botched.

Sotto said that in the end, those critical of the RH bill would ensure that the final version "will look after family health and maternal care."

"That's the only way for the measure to pass," he said.

Cayetano said in a text message that she was prepared for the amendments for atleast the 41 occasions "should not remove the essential features of the bill."

Blogger cries plagiarism

In the past two speeches this week, Sotto bombarded the line of the bill after his wife Helen Sotto contraceptives and slammed foreign supporters led by the United States, United Nations and World Bank for orchestrating population control in developing countries like the Philippines.

A local blogger, Alfredo Mel. gar of the group Filipino Freethinkers, accused Sotto of plagiarism.

Melgar said that Sotto's speech on the death of his infant son was copied nearly word for word from the blog of "Sarah, the healthy home economist." Melgar's account first went viral yesterday.

Sotto denied the allegation. He said he had always quoted the sources of his information in his speeches. "Don't I always come out with a blanket disclosure whenever I quote somebody?"

'Go, save one'

The senator wondered why he should be scared just because he and "Sarah" happened to quote from the work of author Rhonda Campbell Hallinde on the adverse effects of the pill.

"Unlike my critics, I don't pretend that I know it all. I always quote from the experts, newspaper columns, books or statements from the experts. So, sue me," Sotto said.

"I would rather that those who support the RH bill answer the issues I am raising instead of distracting me from the issue by criticizing me," he said.

The senator earlier complained that his stand against the RH bill had earned him enemies who use the Internet to attack him.

'Helen' exits but public told to stay alert

From page A1

WET FINDINGS, INDEED Rodrigo Mabasay, 57, stands in his pen to be brought to an evacuation center in Cainta, Rizal province, after floods swamped his home last week. KEITH LOPEZ

for possible flash floods and landslides.

The storm's exit offered some relief for millions of people struggling to recover from a brutal few weeks of monsoon rains that claimed 109 lives.

However, civil defense chief Benito Ramos said floods could still hit the Cagayan River basin, a farming region of more than 2 million people, as runoff from storm-battered mountains poured from surrounding monsoon ranges.

"The storm is gone but we're still on red alert. In 18 hours we'd know how much water would descend on Cagayan River," Ramos said.

Helen strengthened into a typhoon on Thursday and was heading toward the coast of southern China west of Hong Kong.

The storm swept across Luzon on Wednesday, dumping heavy rain on the Cagayan basin and other areas in the north, leading to the deaths of four people.

But the storm also crossed more land area than its predecessor Gener, including Metro Manila and exacerbating farming regions where an intense deluge triggered by another storm caused devastating floods last week.

105 killed

Those floods, which came after nearly a fortnight of relentless rain that soaked the ground and filled rivers, killed at least 105 people, according to the government's latest tally.

The government's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said it was still providing relief aid to nearly 4 million people already affected by last week's floods, including more than 216,000 in evacuation centers.

Floods that prevented the farming provinces surrounding Manila had started to recede, and the number of people in evacuation centers was about half the peak over the week-end.

At 4 a.m. Thursday, Helen was packing winds of 120 kilometers near northwest of Laoag City, Pagasa said.

The storm was still packing maximum sustained winds of 85 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 100 kph, and was forecast to move near northwest at a speed of 24 kph.

By afternoon, Helen should already be well out of the Philippine area of responsibility at 550 km west northwest of Laoag City, Pagasa said in an advisory.

At 11 p.m. bulletin, Pagasa said the western section of Luzon would experience occasional to frequent bursts because of the monsoon, while Mindanao would have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms.

The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms, it said.

Moderate to strong winds blowing from the southwest will prevail over Luzon and its coastal waters will be landwards to rough. Elsewhere, winds will be light to moderate coming from the south with slight to moderate seas.

Ramos said he expected most people would be able to return to their flood-damaged homes within a week.

Homes destroyed

But Ramos said more than 72,000 families, or about 363,000 people, had lost their homes completely and would need temporary shelters for a longer period.

Silvia Lindtveldter, country head for aid group Save the Children, warned that the millions of people affected by the floods faced months of miserable and dangerous conditions either inside or outside evacuation centers.

"The need is massive and urgent—millions of people are suffering the immediate consequences of these floods and we must try to stop them before the rains hit again," she said in a statement.

Damage to crops

In Cagayan province, the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (PDRRMC) reported that at least P600 million worth of unhusked rice and corn were destroyed by floods.

In Isabela province, agriculture officials Tuesday said rains dumped by Helen in the past two days did not cause widespread destruction to farms and crops in the province, except in about 10 hectares of corn farms in San Pablo, Santa Maria, Cabagan, San Agustin and Reina Mercedes, said Ruperto Diy.

Officials in the 33 said the 588 villagers in the eastern coastal towns of Palanan and Maconacon had returned to their homes after the storm passed on Wednesday.

The 861-megawatt Magat Dam's gates in Ramon town remained closed after rains stopped in the province.

Floods recede

In La Union province, floodwaters in 169 villages in 12 towns and one city started receding on Thursday.

Provincial Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Officer Ricardo Ordoñez said 1,331 people, who evacuated on Wednesday as floodwaters rose, returned home on Thursday.

Reports from La Union officials said the floods destroyed P3.3 million worth of palay and vegetables in the province.

Pio Aldaster Dupang, provincial information officer, said damages and illegal logging in the province's timbery were washed away by floods.

In Ilocos Norte province, officials said residents in Pasuquin, which was hard hit by debris, started removing heaps of trash and debris on a creek that caused floodwaters to swamp two villages at the height of the storm on Wednesday.

In Central Luzon, the storm spared Aurora as only mild rains occurred there since Tuesday, said engineer Eli. son Ignacio, head of the PDRRMC in Aurora.

In Pampanga province, the number of flooded villages decreased from 105 last week to 101 on Thursday. Nestor Ejercito, spokesman for the flooded communities.

Three villages remained flooded as rainwater from Nueva Ecija and sections of Bataan Made it to Central Luzon started flowing downstream of the Pampanga River, said Joel Magalit, provincial information officer.

Mech-deep in Masantol

Eight coastal villages in Masantol town, which faces Manila Bay, are submerged in mch-deep water. Residents have made temporary shelters on top of a dike in the town's whole chose in Barangay Bagbaguin. Bandila task village to ut. evacuation center built beside the dike.

Classes in the second district townie of Caogan, Lubao, Sasmuan, Sto. Rosario, Porac and Floridablanca remained suspended on Thursday. Pampanga Gov. Ed. in Panlilio lifted the alert for labor flows from the damming of rainwater in Henri's upland, areas due to landslides. With reports from Rolando Pobeda, Cristina Arandoo and Information Officer Vhergie Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon Bureau; Grego.ios, Inquirer Central Luzon, and AFP

House split causing RH bill's delay

From page A1

against House Bill No. 4244 in the "in a question of personal and millionaire privilege."

Garcia, a proponent of the RH bill, described as jobless rabbit the effort of Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez, who roamed the chamber to discuss measures to address the devastation caused by the heavy monsoon rains and flooding.

But Golez knew his limit, saying it was pro-RH congressmen who were "delaying" the proceedings, citing there absence at the start of the plenary session last Tuesday and Wednesday.

"They are the proponents, they are the ones who would like to change the status quo so they should be here," he told the legislators. "They are the ones delaying [the proceedings]. They're not here. So it's few of them are here. They're losing by default."

'Be man enough'

During her turn, Golez blasted Golez and company, saying "let us be man enough to discuss our position on the merits for the responsible parenthood bill."

"Let's a that this ignorance of personal and collective privilege—if I may quote Congressman [Rodolfo] Farinas—is just an excuse not to talk about the responsible parenthood bill?" she said.

On the other hand, the period of amendments was to start, there were more anti-RH congressmen spotted on the floor at the start of the plenary session. The following day, were fewer lawmakers showed up at the beginning of the session.

"We are not sure about our numbers," Garcia said. "Some of them might have lost at the end of the day, we would like to show to say people that it is our obligation and our duty to put forward our views on this very important issue."

The real battle

Golez denied that his group was avoiding the period of amendments, pointing out that few of the pro-RH lawmakers were present, noting that he was among those who voted to terminate the debates on HB 4244.

"That is the real MO [sic]. This is the real battle," he said. "They should be here."

But before session adjourned on Wednesday, Golez moved to suspend all further deliberations on HB 4244 to allow the chamber to address the problems caused by the enormous rains and storms. However, the session adjourned and it was not put to a vote.

Parliamentary warfare

The session on Tuesday was also uncontentiously adjourned after the chamber failed to settle the issue on whether Sulaiman Rep. Vicentino Sarmiento should continue with his speech condemning the reproductive health (RH) bill.

Asked why the issue was never put to a vote, Speaker Feliciano Belmonte said: "It's better not to vote. It's very divisive if you were doing that on an issue as that one. We have to try to maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to passing on. That's what we're up to now."

Proponents of the bill have urged lawmakers to set a timetable to tackle the amendments. But Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales said that even if a timetable was set, lawmakers could not be prevented from eschewing privilege speeches.

The law of parliamentary warfare said 100 percent of members are present, that does not prevent anybody from using parliamentary tactics provided for by the rules," Gonzales said in a phone interview.

The presence of supporters of the bill was also important, he also said. "That's how it is. That's how parliamentary warfare is. This is going to be a war of attrition, so you have to be there."

What's more, Gonzales said even the House leaders were divided on their stand on the RH bill. He added that this was the first time he had seen consumers that had split the House almost right down the middle.

Singapore court awards Marcos millions to PNB

From page A1

and a corporation believed to be linked to them.

Ang ruled that the money...deposited in the Singapore branch of German bank BayLB...belonged to PNB, which was once owned by the Philippine government but is now a private bank.

"Users of the views that PNB holds legal title to the funds as trustee of the same." Ang said in his judgement is made on Wednesday.

Reacting to Ang's ruling, President Aquino's spokesman Edwin Lacierda said the Marcos family's luxurious lifestyle was "a positive light" the Singapore court's decision "since it is undisputed that PNB holds title to the funds as trustee agent for the benefit of the Republic."

The funds, comprising $26.8 million and 1.2 million British pounds ($65.58 million), were part of the ill-legal ill-gotten fortune that the Supreme ustrina hunting for Marcos had stashed away in various Swiss bank accounts.

Marcos ruled the Philippines from 1965 until 1986 when he was overthrown in the EDSA People Power Revolution. He died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

After winning two presidential elections in the 1960s, he declared martial law in 1972, using military force to crush dissent. During his dictatorial regime, Marcos and his cronies allegedly amassed a fortune of up to $10 billion through graft and rigged business deals, much of it stashed overseas.

In 1998, Swiss authorities released $656 million that Marcos had deposited in Swiss banks to an escrow account in PNB. At the behest of the Philippine government, PNB moved the money to various international banks, including $100 million in Westdeutsche Landesbank in Singapore.

The German bank had already returned more than $70 million escrowed to it by PNB, but the balance of the latter's $100 million investment was held up in a protracted legal process after several groups staked claims to the money in 2003.

In deference to the order of Hawaii Judge Manuel Real for a global freeze on all Marcos assets and his ruling that victims of the Marcos regime should also benefit from the recovered funds, PNB went to court in 1994 to determine how the balance of PNB's $100-million investment should be disposed of.

In March 2008, Singapore's highest court rejected the appeal of the Philippine government for the United States to $100 million, affirming a lower court ruling that Manila must prove ownership of the money in the face of competing claims by other parties.

The Philippine government based its claim on a 2003 landmark ruling by the Philippine Supreme Court that the Marcos' funds deposits be forfeited to Manila's favor.

But the Singapore judge ruled that the Philippine Supreme Court decision could not be enforced in the city-state, setting the stage for another lengthy litigation.

While he dismissed the money claims of the Marcos victims, the judge said he sympathized with their plight but added the court "must act in a principled manner when dealing with such questions of law." AFP

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Lions rip Knights, forge three-way tie

MAPUA's Michael Parada tries to score off Arellano University's Ralph Salcedo during yesterday's match.

By Marc Anthony Reyes

SAN JUAN didn't want to get into the court-crowded outside the top spot.

The defending champion really achieved its goal when it routed Letran, 69-40, last night to grab a share of the leadership in the NCAA men's basketball tournament at San Juan Arena.

The Cardinals notched their 2 in a tie with the Arellano Chiefs to only three points by the last quarter and wound up 6-0-40 victory.

The Red Lions, champions of the past two seasons, had an easy time against the Knights, who were coolly among the 6-foot-6 Raymond Almazan.

They charged to an 11-3 lead in the half behind Mekki Lim, Nigerian Okechi Adeogun and Anjo Cruzada then went on top by 21 points to the fourth period.

Almazan finally drowned up last night in mixed clothes. The 24-year-old operations management is also said he is still recovering from viral infection and a recurring injury to his right ankle.

"I'm ready to play and help our team in the second round," said Almazan who only played in the Knights' first two games. "I know that I have been out for a long time and the team would need adjustment with my comeback."

There are reports, though, that Almazan was persuaded by the school which didn't like the idea of its key star once joining the pro league.

From a 30-28 lead after the third period, the Cardinals rightened up their defenses, leaving the Chiefs to only three free throws to finish pulling away.

Sixteen-lifeboat Parada scored eight of his game-high 21 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Cardinals' decisive fourth period. The 23-year-old Parada, a psychology major, scored four points in between Jonas Hanes' three-pointers as Mapua padded its lead 61-40-46.

The Cardinals also held Rocky Acuiler to-silent in the fourth quarter after the Arellano guard scattered 11 of his team-high 18 points in the third.

"I guess our defense worked, we scored that we were going them no many baskets," said Mapua coach Chito Victolero who paid tribute to his mentor and Arellano coach Boy Bonoli.

"I have the highest regard for coach Eric and even this brother[-coach Joel] (who was at the sidelines)," said Victolero. "But he himself taught us that inside the court, there are no friends and no relatives. It's interesting because he (Eric) nephew and son are playing for us."

Jonathan Bandi, out of key scored 16 points, while Gab. Aced's out, added 10 points for the Cardinals.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

PBA-backed national five leaves for Jones Cup today

By Mineng B. Castillo

A TWELVEMAN team made up of some of the PBA's brightest stars departs for Taipei today to get a taste of the international brand of play in the 34th staging of the prestigious Willini Jones Cup.

Coach Chot Reyes said that winning the event is not secondary for the Nationals, who will be tagged against a tough foreign field in their buildup for a tougher grind ahead.

The Smart Gilas program, which Reyes mentored after leaving Talk 'N Text in the Philippine Basketball Association, is being readied for the World Championship qualifier slated next year.

"I told the players that I will try differ[ent combinations] on the floor[but] as to get a feel of each other," Reyes said. "We know one word as our battlecry: 'Learning.'"

Gains seen

The last time the country went on all-per-cent to the event was in 2005 with a squad coached by Yeng Guiao.

That team also played two tournaments before going to Tianjin, China, for the Fiba-Asia Olympic qualifying where it fell short.

There are several holdovers from that event, including former PBA Rookie of the Year Jeffrei Sorenwod.

Two-time PBA Most Valuable Player James Yap of B-Meg and Arwind Santos of Petron Blaze would have been part of the 2005 line-ups but both[together with fellow Sta Miguel group players] Mon Fenglet and Alex Cabagnot, failed to sign their letters of commitment for the assignment.

The backlash of pros is a whole lot stronger with naturalized center Marcus Douthit anchoring the slot.

Former champions

Two Philippine squads, the Crowerood Tigers in 1998 under Tim Cone and the Northern Consort-backed all-amateur squad in 2003 under Ato Agustin, had ruled the Jones Cup before and Reyes' group will not only try to become the third but also improve on a third place finish last year.

Another first on the list for the Nationals at 5 p.m. on Saturday before the Filipinos take on the K-Town of the host nation the day after at 7 p.m.

REYES

DOUTHIT

PH Under-18 squad kicks off bid vs Saudi Arabia

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE FILIPINO Filipinos under-18 team starts its tough quest for a world berth when it tackles Saudi Arabia tonight in the preliminary round of the 22nd Fiba Asia U18 Championship in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Led by UAAP juniors MVP Jovin Pingoy, the youth team faces a similarly confident Saudi squad in the 8 p.m. opening battle at Sutjesur Chess Arena.

"We're in a tough group, but if there's one game that we're expected to win, it should be Saudi," said national youth coach Olsen Racela.

Two-time champion Iran and 2008 runner-up Kazakhstan complete the other Group D pairing at 12 noon at Crooked Sport Hall.

"Our game against Saudi is very crucial," said Racela. "Of course, we're practically qualified to the next round."

The 16 competing nations were drawn into four groups. Each group will compete in a round-robin format with the top three advancing to the second round.

"We see here to make our presence count," Saudi Arabia coach Ali Fahad told Philstar.com.

"We are not taking lead. In this age group, the only advantage our team can carry to be hard work they have put in. But expectations count for two to the for the simple reason that the players who formed the world-winning squad for any team cannot be there now."

BABILONIA

PORTER

Holdovers

Aside from Pingoy, the Philippines also hopes to draw steady games from under-16 holdovers Jay Alejandro, Hubert Caut, Prince Rivera, Jay Mendoza and Kideon Babilonia.

"Iranians are a small team, I still believe our strength is our speed," said Racela. "We plan to take advantage of this especially against bigger opponents."

The Philippines takes on Kazakhstan at 12 noon tomorrow and Iran at 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Completing the 12-nation national squad are May Penchatec, Mario Bonifacio, Kiko Porter, Ruiz Loo, Mikhail Shayon and Hyde Encarnis.

The top three teams at the end of the tournament will represent Asia in the Fiba U19 World Championship in Czech Republic next year.

Shakey's Invit'l slot for V-L Open champ

A SLOT in the Shakey's Invitational will also go to the champion of the Shakey's V-League Open volleyball tournament that gets going this Sunday at Moro Aquino Stadium in Manila.

"We have plans to stage an Invitational tournament some time in November and the Open champion will represent the Philippines in the event," said Shakey Shawchan, chair of tournament organizers Sports Vision.

Philippine Army—returning with its champion core of Rachel Anne Daquis and sisters Michelle and Majorie Carolino—opens its bid to back-to-back titles at the Philippine Navy at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Smart Sunbids, the defending squad favored for its powerhouse status, gets its first test against former in the 4 p.m. nightcap of a three-game bill.

The Import Ang Bonlee and Ivanovic Kuzmanig, both league veterans, bannet the Sunbids squad that also tapped former MVPs Rosemarie Bustos and Gorgeous Encarnacion.

Sunbids also got champion coach Roger Gorayeb on board as well as the solid crew of Joy Benitez, Angela Benting, Jill Gandia and Robin De Leon.

Alumni Audrey Tapot takes over from Gorayeb as Alvarez with former team vice Chavit Sachez as assistant.

Meanwhile Accel and Pilar Gallagher lured the Lady Eagles' campaign along with Gretchen Ho, Dei Gervacio, Jem Torres and Dominique Linsao.

Jasmine B. Payo

JOSEPH

QC RTC orders arrest of swim head Joseph

By Jose Mariano

THE QUEZON City Regional Trial Court has issued a warrant of arrest for swimming chief Mark Joseph in connection with a child abuse case filed by swimmer Jessi Jerome Carpio.

Presiding judge Ana Bracken Jr. of QC RTC Branch 107 found probable cause to issue the warrant in the president of the Philippine Aquatic Sports Association (Pasa) for violating Republic Act 7610 or the anti-child abuse law.

Joseph, who was asked to post a bail of P80,000, could not be reached for comment.

Carpio filed the complaint before the Quezon City Prosecutors Office on July 19, 2011.

In his complaint, Carpio said he failed to compete in the 43rd Selitah Age Group Swimming Championships in Malaysia last year when Joseph banned him from joining the competition. As a result, the son of Philippine Sea swimming queen Celina Sacry Carpio claimed he suffered emotional and psychological stress.

Carpio, who was 17 years old at that time, was supposed to compete in the event's 50-meter freestyle (25-27 years old) and 200-meter freestyle relay.

For his complaint, Carpio said he suffered embarrassment and humiliation as a result of the incident.

The Swimming Swimming Association of Selitah (Swaa) limited the three-day swimming event. Joseph had earlier won an e-mail to the Aquatic Swimming Union of Malaysia (Aucm), alleging that the PSF tournaments were not affiliated with the Federation Internationale De Natation (Fina) or Swa.

Pinoy KO: Sonsona, Peñalosa battle Thais tomorrow

MEDIOCRES (from left) Tadpulchai Sirichaichong, Petchnarunsing Sithsaithong, Allen Sonsona and Dave Peñalosa.

Booters' move to UFL squads benefits Azkals

By Cedrik F. Tupas

CHICAGO—The decision of several national team players based in Europe and the United States to sign up for United Football League clubs in Manila will surely swell for the Azkals' bid to qualify for the Suzuki Cup.

Azkals coach Michael Weiss, who is supervising the national team's two-week camp here, welcomed the move of Denis Wolf, Neil Christensen, Jason de Jong and Ulf Mehrens to play in the coming UFL season as it will allow Dan Palami to join regularly with the national team.

Wolf, a former German Bundesliga player who spent time in the fourth division in Germany last season, and former Belgium second division standout Christensen have signed to play for reigning champion United FC, while Demerie, an Under-23 standout, has been acquired by Kaya.

De Jong, who has experience playing in the Netherlands and Belgium and Indonesia, has signed with Pioneer Stallion Global Pilipinas Foundation.

Philippine midfielder Dan Gosiengfiao has also been linked with a move to Kaya, while new national team recruits Demerrion Caraparo and Matthew Orr have both expressed interest to join a UFL club for the coming season.

Last year, Azkals standouts Angel Guirado and Emelio Dellosa were lured into leaving Kaya in favor of the UFL, a move that proved crucial in the team's preparations and eventual third place finish in the AFC Challenge Cup.

"The moves indicate that the players want to be part of the team," said Weiss. "It's not like before, where we just take players who can walk straight. We just were really getting quality that we are looking for."

Weiss said the influx of FIFA ranked players here and lured abroad will make the league stronger and increase the level of competitiveness.

"To attract players to leave everything behind and new football in a career in the Philippines speaks a lot of the development," said the German coach.

The Azkals stayed overlooking ice-skating in Oak Brook, a suburb east of Chicago—even after its international friendly match against US Virgin Islands scheduled Friday in Indianapolis was cancelled.

The USVI has reportedly blamed the Chicago-based promoters for its failure to file the tickets of the players and the staff in time for the match.

Playing a "selection team" fielded by semi-pro side Chicago Inferno, the Azkals lost 1-0 in the first match of the tour.

Weiss and teammates have been lined up for the Azkals before their departure from the Windy City on Aug. 19.

"We don't have to peak right now. We must peak when we reach the tournament," said Weiss.

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Hagdang Bato heads Bagatsing Cup roster

THE LEGACY of the late Manila Mayor continues with the 40th staging of the Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing Memorial Cup this weekend at the Quezon Memorial Circle tennis area park, where Triple Crown champion Hagdang Bato is expected to again lead the nations packed event.

Staged by the Kabisig foundation, Inc., the racing festival host, on the last day of Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing, is noted sports enthusiast and record keeper.

The mayor's son, Manila Second District Representative Bienvenido Abante Jr. Bagatsing III, Manila Vice Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso and Senator Francis N. Pangilinan are honorary patrons of the event.

Abante said, "Manila Second District Representative Bienvenido Abante Jr. Bagatsing III, Manila Vice Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso and Senator Francis N. Pangilinan are honorary patrons of the event.

"The mayor's son,

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

SPORTS

SCOTT Barr pitches from the fringe.

Barr grabs solo lead by 2

RANCHO PALOS VERDES, Calif.—Grant Barr of Australia was last all day yesterday, shooting a second-round 9-under-par 63 for a provisional two-stroke lead over countrymate Ryan Balloch halfway through the $80,000 ICTSI Orchard Golf Championship at the Palmer Course here.

Barr, a veteran of several international tours, completed a first round 68 in the morning before returning to gun down five birdies against a lone bogey for a 36-hole 131 aggregate over the well-manicured layout.

Balloch, who had a 69 in the morning, added a 67 for 136, with Englishman George Tucker falling to third at 137 as he settled for a 71 after matching Barr's 66 in the first round.

Tony Lascuña, who kept the lowest hors in eight with a first round 67, struggled in his second round score with a 71 marred by a double-bogey on No. 13 for 138.

Several flights were again left stranded in the course because of darkness with former Singaporean amateur hotshot are Quincy Quek, who is still looking for a breakthrough win in three years as a pro, at five under overall with three holes to play in the second round.

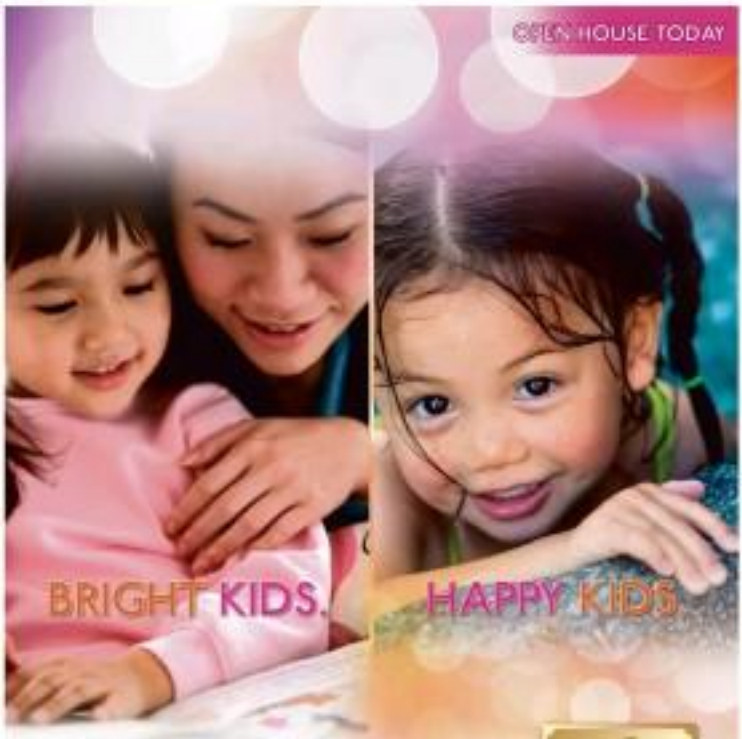
Also at 5-under was Ruffin Nayera, who improved on his opening 70 with a 68 for 138.

Carl Ramon Ocampo of the Philippines and Mitsuhiko Watabnabe of Japan, who held the clubhouse lead in the rain-delayed first round with 68s, both scored 72s for 140.

Barr is out to atone for his seventh place finish in last week's Manila Invitational won by Elmer Salvador in Cebu.

Salvador, who beat Lascuña by six in Cebu, settled for a par of 71s for a 142 and stood eight strokes off Barr.

Other two-under par scorers were Indonesian Taverge Gunawan (71) and Peter Richardson (70), while Jhamsel Alaska and Keenan Urdas Park posted two-under cards overall after six holes. —Wassang B. Candilla



Garcia urges NSAs to go grassroots

By Jam Nazario

PHILIPPINE Sports Commission chair Richie Garcia yesterday urged national sports associations to exert effort in setting up grassroots development programs rather than just hope that the government would do these for them.

"What are the NSAs doing to discover athletes with potentials? Are they just waiting for the government?" asked Garcia after stating that some NSAs have no viable talent-search program in the provinces.

Garcia added that a sizeable number of NSAs resort in finding talent only through the help of the PSC and government.

The sports-funding agency has put up multi-sport events such as the Batang Pinoy—for athletes aged 13 years old and below—and the Philippine National Games while supporting the Department of Education's Palarong Pambansa.

The Palaro caters to elementary and high school student-athletes while the PSGs is designed to tap potential athletes nationwide while testing the competitive level of athletes in the national training pool.

"The [NSAs] should start building their grassroots programs in every possible Klaro Manila and in the provinces," said Garcia, a day after arriving from another medal-empty campaign in the Olympics held in London.

The PSC chief also echoed PSC commissioner Buddy Andrada's sentiments that overstaying NSAs leader without a notable track record in terms of athlete performance should turn over.

Resma bags twin titles

By Marc Anthony Reyes

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Rosanna Resma accentuated her dominance of the Cilimanon Philtis Open tennis championships presented by Sikatuna Express Rice/Solaia recently after bagging two crowns at Ciudad Sports Center in Socot, Pamplona.

Resma, a product of the Philippine Tennis Academy, stunned third seed Katrina Orteza, 7-5, 7-5, to add the consolation girl's 14-under title to her 15-under division crown over No. 2 Elora Igbojos, 6-2, 6-3.

Crowned as one of Resma's victims was 10-under top seed Samantha Cayetano, whom she took care with ease, 6-1, 6-3, in Tuesday's semifinals.

Philippine Tennis Association president, Atty. Jorge Fernando Gibaja, lauded Resma's feat which he said signalled new growth in Philippine tennis that lagged behind the rest the years.

"Rosanna's twin victories underscored the big strides she made the past two years, we aim to give these young talents venue to hone their talents and skills," said Gibaja.

More fresh talents uprooted as unseeded Vincent Alaide whipped No. 7 Claudia Cardas to barge into the boys 14-under quarterfinals.

Her top seed Michael Eala stayed in top form in leading the 10-under unseeded quarterfinals run by beating Mhea Vhelanes, 6-3, 6-0. Second seed Diego Dayrit topped Miguel Reyneles, 6-0, 6-0, to also advance.

In the inter-club news, Hilde Olivarez II powered Team Olivarez to a 3-0 shutout of Corinthian City Tennis Club. The son of the Philtis chief is making a comeback after finishing his studies at the Missouri Wesleyan University and is eyeing a spot in the Philippine Davis Cup team.

Team Ebarle defeated Villamor Tennis Club, 4-1, in the other inter-club duel.

Aplus METRO

Editor Joseph Voltaire L. Contreras

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DID YOU KNOW

THERE were 29,397 road accidents in Metro Manila from January to April this year which resulted in 135 casualties, according to data from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority's Road Safety Unit.

Zoheir Gordon, Inquirer Research

Pawnshop in busy mall robbed

'Martilyo' gangmen flee as shots send crowds into panic

By Nico Calleja and Jayvee T. Gozo

FOUR men who had just robbed a pawnshop inside a mall in Pasay City used to their advantage yesterday the huge crowd of shoppers and Metro Rail Transit (MRT) commuters inside the establishment.

To escape from small security guards who were chasing them, one of the robbers fired shots into the air, creating a panic and causing people rushing to the exits.

In the ensuing confusion, the robbers got away with their loot—a still undetermined amount of jewelry taken from the Tambunting pawnshop on the third floor of the Metrowalk mall.

The shopping mall at the corner of Taft Avenue and Edsa in Pasay City is connected to the MRT Buendia Taft Avenue station, one of the east-bound light rail transit system's busiest stations. During the MRT's operating hours, the mall is full of commuters headed for or coming off the MRT and the nearby eight-lane Edsa (LRT) Line 1.

Senior Supt. Melchor Reyes, Pasay City police chief, said that the robbery (which was carried out in just three minutes) took place at 3:20 p.m. yesterday as four men dressed in oiled pants and frail caps casually walked into the pawnshop.

He added that only one of the men was armed while the rest carried hard pipes and hammers. Without any word, they started smashing the glass display cases, scooped up the jewelry inside and walked out.

"The security guard of the pawnshop was helpless during the robbery because apparently, he left his service firearm in his locker," Reyes said.

Mall security guards who were several meters away from the pawnshop spotted the robbers and promptly gave chase.

At this point, the robber who was carrying a gun fired shots into the air, creating a chaos.

"By the sound of the gunfire, the people panicked and scrambled for the store exits," Reyes said.

In the confusion, the robbers managed to blend in with the crowd and escape with their loot.

"This was the work of the Martilyo Gang (mall gang)," Reyes said, referring to the notorious robbery group whose members are known to snatch the jewelry glass display cases of establishments they target, usually pawnshops and jewelry stores.

He added that no one was hurt in the incident except for one of the robbers who apparently suffered a cut on his wrist taking the jewelry from the destroyed glass display cases.

"There were bloodstains ... and the pawnshop employees who saw the injured robber," Reyes said.

The incident prompted the MRT to temporarily suspend its operations to ensure the safety of passengers. It resumed operations at 4 p.m., according to LRT authority spokesperson Hernando Cabrera.

Hayden wins anew vs Katrina

THE COURT of Appeals has affirmed a 2010 ruling of the Pasig City Regional Trial Court dismissing the case filed by actress Katrina Halili against former cohort, ex-lover Hayden Kho over their sex video scandal.

Halili had accused Kho of violating the law on violence against women and children when he allegedly uploaded on the Internet videos of their sexual escapades. Halili also claimed that Kho had then recorded.

In December 2010, Judge Rodolfo Bonifacio of Pasig RTC Branch 69 granted Kho's motion to have the case dismissed for lack of evidence. The local court also denied Halili's motion for reconsideration after the following year.

In a ruling released yesterday, the CA court's second division upheld the Pasig RTC rulings.

In a decision penned by Associate Justice Manuel Barrios, the court said the earlier proof of Kho's motion to dismiss or demurrer on the basis of the case having no sufficient evidence was equivocal in nature and has cannot be appealed.

Christine O. Avendaño

Road 'bully' suspended; traffic aide commended

By Hilda Calleja

THE "BULLY" has been suspended from work while the traffic aide who was caught on video assaulting a traffic officer of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has been lauded in top for a promotion.

The motorist who was caught on video assaulting a traffic officer, identified only as Fabros, was suspended by his company, Philip Morris Fortune Tobacco Corp., pending the issuance of the investigation report by Aug. 31 included.

In a statement yesterday, PMFTC disclosed its internal investigation and human resources manager Rubye Mah Cambaron, as he found it acceptable for dismissal filed by MMDA assembly Secretary Bibiano.

PMFTC reiterated that Cambaron was "on his personal time and not on duty for the company" when the incident took place, but that "it does not condone inappropriate actions by any of our employees."

A 27-second video of the assault, which was taken by a TV5 newsman, has been spreading on social networking sites since Tuesday, drawing more than millions, many of whom described it as the rudest thing to do to a Cambaron.

It showed Cambaron berating and slapping Fabros—who did not fight back—as Cambaron's brother Robert Benjamin looked on. The brothers got off Cambaron's green Volvo after the traffic officer flagged them down for beating the red light at the intersection of Capitol Drive and Timbaga Sons in Quezon City on Saturday.

As the officer is holding on his shoulder-mounted, Fabros' and composure during the assault as opposed by the video didn't go unnoticed by his superiors.

In a memo addressed to MMDA Chair Francis Tolentino, Fast Sonalee, the director of the agency's traffic discipline office, recommended the immediate promotion of Fabros to Traffic Aide I.

"By trying to endorse the case for appointment on July 30, Fabros showed his diligence and dedication to his work. Moreover, he showed his command, patience and tolerance by not striking back in the aggression," Gonzales said.

Fabros, a 47-year-old widower and father of six (not him, as earlier reported), has been working for the MMDA for 27 years.

FABROS

Alan to MMDA chair: 'You fired wrong guy'

By Norman Bordadora

JEFF. ALAN Peter Cayetano yesterday took Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Francis Tolentino to task for the recent floods in Taguig City which has inundated and rendered homes powered if the local pumping station did not run out of fuel.

Cayetano took up the cudgels for Rebecca Malgar, whom Tolentino earlier relieved of his post as chief of the MMDA flood control office for his supposed failure to refuel the Taguig pumping stations and another in Quezon City during the critical hours leading to the widespread flooding.

"You fired the wrong guy," Cayetano told Tolentino in a hearing of the Senate committee on climate change which did a postmortem on the calamity that hit the capital.

The senator presented a letter Malgar sent on Aug. 2—days before the floods—to MMDA Assistant General Joe Palanca Silvestre Fullston asking him to expand the fuel supplies to make a delivery as soon as possible in view of an impending shortage.

But Tolentino explained there was no need for Malgar to write that letter since a simple phone call to the supplier would do.

He also testified signing purchase orders for the fuel only basis to survey the pumping stations of a timely supply until September "to see who's the person in charge of the station] to call for the deliveries," he added.

But the senator said he received information that Malgar had made multi-calls to the supplier, but that the delivery was made only on Aug. 8, the second day of the heavy rains.

Cayetano, a former representative of Taguig and the neighboring municipality of Pateros, said Taguig officials led by his wife, Mayor Lani Cayetano, were initially confident that the city would be spared by the floods.

"We were ready to compromise the unmanned officials. But we weren't informed that the pumping station had stopped running for eight hours. So you can imagine the outrage," Cayetano said.

He said the floods damaged some P200 million worth of property in the city and over the local government about P16 million for the evacuation and relief efforts.

JEHTA's "Strategic Thinking" workshop @ Panasonic

A whole-day session packed workshop on "Strategic Thinking Initiative" offered on a "first come first served" basis will be held on August 23, 2012 at the Panasonic Development Center of Technology Manufacturing Philippines Corporation (PMPC) in Santa Rosa. The program is sponsored by major Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEHTA), and organized through the efforts of Panasonic Regional Training Center (PRTC – Training) and PMPC.

The training workshop opening program will not only allow participants to acquire strategic thinking and planning skills, but also high level leadership competencies essential and necessary for the individual to climb "Career Development Ladder." Strategic Thinking Model," and "Strategic Planning in Action" learned from Blind Mapping Issues, DB consultant, and to operational speaker, Dr. Agnes Ngal. Serious will be to learn to facilitate the said workshop.

JEHTA is one of Japan's largest industry associations promoting the healthy manufacturing international trade and consumption of electronics products and contributes in order to contribute to the overall development of the electronics and information technology industries. It is also actively promoting environmental preservation countermeasures, including those concerning global warming.

For registration, please contact Lorna Magpayo at 633-2300, local 2810 or 2812 or 0918-562-4380. Interested parties may also e-mail to lorna.magpayo@ph.panasonic.com for registration.

BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS

DISPOSAL COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), through its Disposal Committee, invites bidders to join the auction of Various Motor Vehicles.

Bid forms may be obtained at the Administrative Services Department (ASD), Room 108, Ground Floor, Providencia Building, A. Mabini cor. P. Ocampo Sr. Streets, Malate, Manila on 14 August 2012. Interested bidders may inspect the items for auction on said date at 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 9:00 a.m. on 21 August 2012 at the ASD Conference Room.

The BSP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to declare the bidding a failure, to annul the bidding process and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders. Furthermore, the BSP reserves the right to waive any minor defect or formality and to accept the proposal most advantageous to the agency.

(Sgd.) ALVIRA B. MARAÑO-JAVIER
Chairperson

(PNA Aug. 17, 2012)

ROAD KILL A taxi driver allegedly robbed and shot by a passenger lies dead on the pavement next to his cab before dawn Thursday in Pilipinas, Manila. (Boy Santos)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Eastern Samar
Municipality of Lawaan

INVITATION TO RE-BID
ITB No. 2012-001-GOODS

1. The Local Government Unit of Lawaan II, Samar through the General Fund/Special Budget No. IV-2012 intends to apply the sum of P 1,000,000.00 being the Approved Budget for the contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the procurement of 1 unit Brand New Toyota Tamaraw FX Gas Powered Dump Truck/ Isuzu Elf/ Mitsubishi L300 Dump Truck. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

2. The Local Government Unit of Lawaan II, Samar now invites bids for:

   Lot/Portion/ Dump Truck
   - Chassis: 1998 Isuzu – 4BD2/BB
   - Engine: 4BD2 – 2500cc
   - Transmission: Manual
   - Load: Tire Wheels & Spare Tire Removed
   - Lot: Spare Tire
   - LTO Registration (Red Plate) with TPL Insurance & Transfer of Ownership
   - Free Registration with dump truck plate NPN. Insurance coverage.

   Lot/Portion/ Dump Truck Head
   - Chassis: 1998 Isuzu – 4BD2/BB
   - Engine: 4BD2 – 2500cc

3. Bidders should have completed, within five (5) years from the date of submission/opening of bids, a contract similar to the Project. For the purpose of the eligible bidder is considered in the Bidding Documents, particularly in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.

4. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

   Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to the RA 9184 and subject to Commonwealth Act. 138.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Local Government Unit of Lawaan, Eastern Samar and review the Bidding Documents at the address given below during Monday to Friday, 8:00 A.M. TO 05:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. TO 05:00 P.M.

   A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders on August 21, 2012 to September 5, 2012 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Php 10,000.00.

   It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.

6. The Local Government Unit of Lawaan II, Eastern Samar will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on August 24, 2012 @ 10:00 A.M. at the LGU Hall, Municipality of Lawaan II, Eastern Samar, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 09:00 A.M. of September 5, 2012 and bid opening shall commence immediately thereafter. Late bids shall not be accepted. Bidders are required to submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of their bids.

   All bidding shall be conducted openly at the address below on September 5, 2012 at 09:00 A.M. and immediately thereafter. Bidders or their authorized representatives may attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

8. The Local Government Unit of Lawaan II, Eastern Samar reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

9. For further information, please refer to:

   ATTY. ROLANDO M. MARTIN
   BAC Chairman
   BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE OFFICE
   Municipality of Lawaan
   Province of Eastern Samar
   Contact No. (055) 543-4142

   (Sgd.) ATTY. ROLANDO M. MARTIN
   BAC Chairman

(PNA – August 17, 2012)

Department of Agriculture
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

INVITATION TO BID

The DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (DA-BAR), through the Regional Office of Region IV-A (CALABARZON), invites interested bidders to submit sealed bids for the following projects:

Name of Project	Approved Budget for the Contract	Date/Time		Time Limit for Completion
		Date/Time of Bidding	Deadline of Receipt of Bids	
1. Construction of Two (2) Storey Administration Building at Regional Agricultural Research Center, Batangas	P15,000,000.00	August 30, 2012 9:00 AM	August 30, 2012 8:30 AM	210 calendar days
2. Construction of Two (2) Storey Administration Building at Regional Agricultural Research Center, Quezon	P15,000,000.00	August 30, 2012 9:00 AM	August 30, 2012 8:30 AM	210 calendar days
3. Construction of Two (2) Storey Administration Building at Regional Agricultural Research Center, Laguna	P15,000,000.00	August 30, 2012 9:00 AM	August 30, 2012 8:30 AM	210 calendar days
4. Construction of Two (2) Storey Administration Building at Regional Agricultural Research Center, Cavite	P15,000,000.00	August 30, 2012 9:00 AM	August 30, 2012 8:30 AM	210 calendar days

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Office of the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat and review the Bidding Documents from AUGUST 20 to AUGUST 29, 2012 during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM).

The DA-BAR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For more information, please call the Procurement Acquisition and Property Division Telephone No. (049) 536-7741.

(Sgd.) ENGR. ROMEO A. LAPEÑA
BAC Chairman

(PNA – August 17, 2012)

Local Water Utilities Administration

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Leyte-Biliran Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LEBECO) through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) is inviting interested BIDDERS to apply for eligibility clearance and to bid for the following:

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CORPORATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Lot 1 – Installation, Configuration of Lotus Structured Cabling System and Supply of Lotus Network Switches

Lot 2 – Pole Mounting Transformer

Lot 3 – Installation, Testing and Commissioning of New 69 kV/34.5 kV/13.8 kV/4.16 kV Three Phase Power Transformer Set, 10/12/14/16/20 MVA Rating

Interested bidders may obtain the list of eligibility requirements, bidding documents and purchase bidding forms from BAC Secretariat starting August 17, 2012 during office hours from Monday to Friday, 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 PM upon the following non-refundable payment schedule:

LOTS	APPROVED BUDGET OF THE CONTRACT	BID DOCUMENT FEES
LOT 1	Php 1,000,000.00	Php 1,000.00
LOT 2	Php 1,750,000.00	Php 1,000.00
LOT 3	Php 1,000,000.00	Php 1,000.00

The duly accomplished eligibility documents on or before August 30, 2012, @ 1:00 P.M. at the LEBECO Pre-Bid Area, Sto. Nino Extn. Avinganan, La Paz, Tacloban, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents. Post-qualification of the bidder with the lowest calculated responsive bid shall be conducted by the BAC.

Opening of Bids will be on September 10, 2012, Tuesday at 1:00 in the afternoon.

Deadline for the submission of the eligibility requirements will be on or before September 6, 2012 at 5:00 P.M. Bidders are also required to submit the BAC Technical and Financial proposals in separate envelopes sealed and marked which will be opened on the date indicated in the Bidding Documents.

All prospective bidders in eligibility and bidding shall be governed by the provisions of the Local Water Utilities Administration Procurement Manual for Public Bidding.

The BAC reserves the right to reject any bid/bid or all bids, declare a failure of bidding or to not award the contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders in accordance with the provisions of the IRR of RA 9184 and the Local Water Utilities Administration Procurement Manual. The BAC will not entertain queries over the telephone and only written queries will be accepted.

For more information, please refer to:

ENGR. ROMEO A. LAPEÑA
BAC Chairman

(PNA – August 17, 2012)

METROBRIEFS

Cop charged for failing to return M-16

A CASE of malfeasance has been filed against a police official after he allegedly failed to return a government-issued firearm following his transfer to another police unit, Senior insp. Michael Perez Galeon, 37, who was previously assigned to the Quezon City Police District (QCPD) Eastern Police district's intelligence and investigation unit, was charged before Quezon City Prosecutor Leo Rosell Dela Rosa for violation of Republic Act 10591, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act.

The case has been turned over to Judge Henri Inting of the QCPD Branch 96. The case against the police official was filed by the QCPD Legal Service division chief after Galeon failed to return an M-16 rifle with serial number 3E 008 979 assigned to him when he was transferred to the QCPD District Headquarters Command.

Galeon was issued the equipment in October 2009 but the following year, he was reassigned to the QCPD district headquarters command. As a result, he was reportedly ordered to return the high-powered firearm but he failed to do so. —Jeannette I. Andrade

Teen kills self after scolding from mom, brother

A 14-YEAR-OLD high school student killed himself the other night after his mother and brother scolded him for not taking his studies seriously.

The body of Mar Vincent Ilarde, a first year high school student, was found hanging from the ceiling of their residence in Barangay 644, Galvez Street in Malate, Manila, at 10 p.m. on Wednesday. The teenager was rushed to Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center where a doctor declared him dead on arrival, according to PO3 Ronel Benitez. Earlier, the victim's class adviser informed his mother that the boy had been skipping school to hang out with his friends. They had to scold him to stop doing what the victim's mother assured him that he would be taken out of school and sent to Mindanao where they own a piece of land to work on.

"His elder brother also scolded him and advised him to study harder," the police investigator said. Later on, the boy hanged himself in the bathroom using his color belt. —Jason Marie Elaca, Reuben S. Del

Doctor sues secretary for pocketing P1.4M

CHARGES have been filed against the secretary of a doctor after she reportedly failed to deposit P1.4 million in cash and checks amounting to more than P1.4 million. Heidi Rebate, 33, was charged the other day with qualified theft and falsification of commercial documents in the Quezon City Prosecutors' Office. Her longtime employer, Dr. Elizabeth Ismael, 68, said she became suspicious after the bank called her up and told her that a check she had issued had bounced because her account had insufficient funds. Case investigator PO1 Arnel Agapito Capio of the Quezon City Police District's Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit said Ismael asked her to check on her bank book, she found out that her secretary was debiting the deposits she had asked her secretary to make between September and earlier this week instead of the bank's usual machine validation. "This made the doctor doubt if the deposits were really made in her account," Capili said. This prompted the doctor to call for help from the police which apprehended secretary in her house in Antipolo City on Tuesday night. —John M. Bordey

Taxi driver shot dead, robbed in Manila

A TAXI driver was found lying face down in a pool of his own blood beside his vehicle in Manila yesterday morning. The police said that Dionisio Dionisio had been shot once in the forehead by robbers who also took his money and other valuables. The body of Dionisio, a driver of Trinity D. Bertran cab, was found on R. Limas corner Esguerra Street in Malate, Manila, at around 7:30 a.m. yesterday, the police said. SPO2 Marcos Antonio Rotea said. They immediately informed barangay officials who reported the incident to the Malate police. "Several witnesses nothing around the place of incident were interviewed but nobody could give details about the suspects who were seen running along Esguerra Street," Valoso said. Dionisio was identified after Jose Hipolito appeared at the police station around 9 a.m. and identified the victim as his relative. —Jason Marie Elaca, Reuben S. Del

Official: Israel could be dissuaded from Iran strike

JERUSALEM—A former Israeli national security adviser said on Wednesday that the prime minister and the defense minister told him this week they had not yet decided to attack Iran's nuclear facilities and could be dissuaded from a strike if President Barack Obama approved stricter sanctions and publicly reaffirmed his willingness to use military force.

"There is a window of opportunity," said the official, Uzi Dayan, a former deputy chief of staff to the military. "This window is closing, but if the United States could be much clearer and stronger about the sanctions on one hand and about what can happen, if Iran won't make a U-turn—there is not a lot of time, but there is still time to make a difference."

Dayan, 64, who is currently the chairman of the national lottery, said he spent more than an hour each with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Ehud Barak at their homes on Monday. He was being considered for the post of minister of the military's Home Front Command, which he said he turned down, and therefore extensively discussed with the two leaders the security threats that faced it, during a particular hot week in Israel's relations with Iran. Another briefing session, he said, is expected to be conducted by Parliament as the home front minister on Thursday.

The meetings came during a week of intensifying public discussion about the possibility of a unilateral Israeli attack on Iran, fueled by a cluster of leaks to the journalists by supporters and opponents of such a strike. The media blitz seems to have woken up the Israeli public—with looming presidential elections and Israel's long lines to gas masks distribution centers—and to have angered Washington, where two top defense officials tried to tamp down the talk on Tuesday.

Dayan's assessment seems to buttress the theory that the collective saber-rattling is part of a campaign to pressure the Obama administration and the international community, rather than an indication of the imminence of an Israeli strike. Many Israelis have believe that Israel's assessment by Netanyahu and Barak this spring led to the harsher sanctions now in place, and that that is unrealistic beyond 2.

"It would be only a tactical tool in order to push some of the other countries," said Gideon Ellazel, another former national security adviser, who is a senior research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv. "They believe that in order to create enough pressure, to enhance the economic sanctions, the only way to do it is by creating the credibility behind the military option. The only way to create credibility is, No. 1, to improve the military readiness and, No. 2, to make a clear announcement that's what we mean to do."

While Netanyahu and Barak have been criticized as "messianic" in their thinking on the Iranian nuclear issue and are widely viewed as ready, if not eager, to take military action in step it, Dayan said they would prefer that the United States led any attack, even if that meant waiting until after the November presidential elections. But "they have to make the decision to refrain to make or not before November," he said, or they need to hear from Obama "in the coming two weeks, in the coming month."

"I've known them a very long time," said Dayan, who served with Netanyahu and Barak in the elite combat unit Sayeret Matkal. "They will make such a decision of striking only if they feel that there is no other way. They will do it only as the last, last thing, but then they will be pretty determined about it."

Tyrian Gilliron, a political scientist at Bar-Ilan University and the center of trade, in which both Washington and Jerusalem are trying to influence each other and the Israeli public, "exposes some serious differences between the two countries."

"It's an issue of trust and trust that are dividing your Israel and the United States, and this is a little bit dangerous," Gilliron said. "If you have time, there is less [opposition]. If you have time, then pressure is also easier [on]. If you have both sanctions and a shortage of time, then it's a recipe for disagreement and misperception."

Emily Landau, an Iran specialist at the Institute for National Security Studies, said the danger was that the latest round of public discussion potentially damaged the Iranian nuclear question as a threat to Israel, rather than as a global issue of nuclear proliferation. While Obama said in March that his policy was one of containment, not containment, Landau acted, "he stopped short of putting some kind of red line behind that."

"But red lines needs to be coming from Washington to Iran; those are the red lines that matter," she said. "If Obama would make a clear statement that would have the double effect of deterring Iran and reassuring Israel, it would take all the air out and would allow decision makers in Israel not to something that's ideologically cold."

New York Times News Service

UK threatens to storm Ecuador Embassy to get Assange

ASSANGE

QUITO/LONDON—The diplomatic standoff over WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange continued on Wednesday after Britain threatened to send Ecuador's embassy in London if Quito did not hand over Assange, who has been taking refuge there for two months.

The Ecuadorean government said such an action would be considered a "hostile and unfriendly act" as well as a violation of its sovereignty.

"Under British law we can give them a week's notice before entering the premises and the embassy will no longer have diplomatic protection," a Foreign Office spokeswoman said.

"But that decision has not yet been taken. We are not going to do this overnight. We want to ensure that we assert a diplomatically agreeable solution."

Quito insisted on the threat and said it would announce its decision on Assange's asylum request on Thursday (7 a.m. ET on Friday in Manila).

"We want to be very clear, we're not a British colony. The colonial times are over," Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said in an angry statement after a meeting with President Rafael Correa.

"The move announced in the official British statement, if it happens, would be interpreted by Ecuador as an unfriendly hostile and inacceptable act, as well as an attack on our sovereignty, which would force us to respond in the strongest diplomatic way," Patino told reporters.

Ecuador, whose government is part of a left-leaning bloc of nations in South America, called for meetings of regional foreign ministers and the Inter-American Organization of Americans States to rally support in its complaint against Britain.

"We are deeply shocked by British government's threats against the sovereignty of the Ecuadorean Embassy and their suggestion that they may forcibly enter the embassy," the statement said on its website.

"This is a clear breach of international law and the pertinent set out in the Vienna Convention." The embassy, near London's famed Harrods department store, was under tight surveillance, with three police officers manning the entrance and several others patrolling around the red brick building.

A group of teenage supporters who responded to a rallying call by WikiLeaks on Twitter gathered outside the diminutive Ecuadorean Embassy and screamed the name Assange.

Reuters

WORLDBRIEFS

Gunmen attack Pakistan air base, 10 dead

KARBIL, Pakistan—Heavily armed militants stormed a Pakistani air force base on Thursday, sparking clashes that left 10 people dead and raised concerns about the safety of the country's nuclear arsenal. One security official was killed and a plane damaged in the predawn assault at PAF Base Kharkar, where suspected Islamist rebels stormed their ability to penetrate a sensitive military site five years into a Taliban insurgency.

AP

Syria war threatens ancient treasures in Aleppo

ALEPPO, Syria—Archaeologists are warning that fighting in Syria's commercial capital, Aleppo, could destroy the world's oldest continuously inhabited human settlement—Damascus. In the surrounding countryside, architectural and archaeological sites, 5,000 years of civilization, already have suffered extensive damage. Recently, two ancient medieval citadels have been blown up in a modern attack, said Maysun Bunduqji, president of the World Monuments Fund, an organization that works to preserve cultural heritage sites. President Bashar Assad's forces have been shelling the city and in recent days have army warplanes up positions inside the United Nations Site with insurgents through the soldiers' sworn troops, according to news reports. Staff was evacuated and stopping of work, the newly defended Citadel has been an important strategic military position and its since again warning their function.

New York Times News Service

14 Chinese arrested after landing on Japan island

TOKYO—The Japanese authorities arrested 14 Chinese citizens from 14 Hong Kong-based vessel on Wednesday after some of them staged a protest by landing on a Japanese-controlled island that is also claimed by China. The incident marked the most serious flare-up in tensions between Japan and its future neighbors over territory and territory. Kyodo News Service reported that Chinese activists had been arrested after landing on the group of uninhabited islands in the East China Sea, known as the Senkakus in Japan and the Diaoyu in China. Seven people from the vessel, which sailed from Hong Kong on Sunday, landed on one of the islands to plant Chinese flags, Japanese coast guard and police officials said.

New York Times News Service

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The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Greco

Ex-CIAs slam Obama over Bin Laden raid leaks

Join in CREBA's annual convention, will tour PHL's 'last frontier'

IMAGINE yourself stranded in a tropical paradise. Though fear haunts you for being stuck in such a far away, strange place, still, you can't help but fall in love with its touristic yet mysterious beauty. Gazing around, the sprawling landscape is mainly accentuated with green coconut and cocoa plantations, as well as free-spirited animals in the wild. The soft, fine white sand bolsters your adventure in mid-exploration on the seashore.

While having a leisure walk on the beach, the wave of melodramatic sparkling in sand by the shoreline makes your weary mind relax. Enticed by it to take a refreshing dive practically to simmer down the day's heat, you open to your private side to catch that very exclusive silence, pensive and solace you're dying to have. Only to find out that you're dreaming of Palawan.

Touted as the "Last Frontier" of the Philippines, Palawan remains a top tourist destination in the country with much of the tourists finding their way either in those Tres populous cities—the beautiful Puerto Princesa, subterranean river Buhay National Park, the breathtaking Honda Bay, and the enchanting El Nido.

Crowned in 2011 as one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature, the famous Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (formerly St. Paul's Subterranean River National Park) is by far one of the best offerings of Palawan's capital city for travelers both local and foreign. Covering a protected area of 22,202 hectares, as well-like UNESCO has inscribed the Park, which is famous to endemic flora and fauna, as a World's Heritage Site in 1999. This amazing spot is famed for its 8.2-kilometers navigable underground river, which is said to be the longest of its kind in the world that winds through a spectacular cave before emptying out into the South China Sea.

Flashing the noisy and enigmatic coastline of Puerto Princesa is Honda Bay, which is situated in Sta. Lourdes Tagbaina. The cool blue waters surround its several islets, such as Cowrie, Wal, Snake, Cabon, Pandan, Starfish, Lo-ni, Starfish, Mark Marina and Arrecefit all present an ayuda pleasure experience on sun spotting and diving tours. From snorkeling to the more adventurous island hopping within its districts or simply having a picnic in the soft sand of its beach areas, Honda Bay is worth more a lasting impression on the visitor.

Heading about 238 kilometers northwest of Puerto Princesa, an enchanting experience of a magical place that is El Nido awaits everyone. Many refer to it as one, either because of its name already from its ancient time, using marble cliffs to its over 50 beaches so many that, if I don't remember you feel as if you are on your own secluded private beach. You will also find memorable lagoons with tranquil turquoise-green water, caves that can take you to hidden beaches, and a rare diverse wildlife. While it continues to become a top destination for island hopping, it has so manifold treasures to offer beyond the obvious. Further activities available include cliff climbing, wakeflash, kayaking, cave exploration, snorkeling, and snorkeling—if you prefer to let the sea mark and make your own adventure to discover more the surrounding north of Palawan. El Nido indeed provides abundant opportunities if you want to commune with nature.

Don't just fancy the fascinating Palawan. Join in the 21st Annual CREBA National Convention set on the "City in a Forest" from October 17 to 20 at The Legend Hotel, Puerto Princesa. Themed "Global Filipino: Key to Continuing Growth Through Sustainable and Strategic Real Estate Development And Practices," this event hoped to unlock and link together sustainable and strategic approaches to keep this growth path, and in the process, reinforce the commitment of industry stakeholders to advance land and housing as a primary catalyst for economic and social progress.

With the PPUR (Puerto Princesa Underground River) having been chosen as one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature/World and the success of Puerto Princesa in keeping the balance between industry and nature, CREBA believes that this city is a good site to support the Convention Theme. Keynote speakers Charlie A. N. Bocqueh, CREBA national president,

apart from learning the newest perspectives on global concepts of sustainable housing practices and trends from the invited speakers as well as tapping into the unlimited opportunities and emerging and fastest-growing markets through networking, get a chance to experience what Palawan has to offer.

"The CREBA convention is not only for pleasure, but for business and investments as well. Hosting the convention there will attract the attendance not only of the delegates but other guests, including international visitors. Developers/investors are also in at spare families to do long-term business, particularly in the field of housing and real estate development," stresses Hotel M. Castro, executive vice president and convention chairman.

Aside from the convention, there is not only a paradise of calm but a bustling business center perfect for business with leisure trips, go for a day tour of the iconic Underground River, Honda Bay or the city itself during the last leg of the three-day convention. Get lost in the beauty and charm of PPUR if you avail the Tour Package Promo on October 20 for only P1,599 inclusive of round-trip airfare, transfers, accommodation, tour guide, a welcome dinner, all permit, terminal and entrance fees, coral and cultural orientation, and farewell cocktails.

Those who want for a long spread or suffer from delayed from due to overbooked reservations of any of these destinations if you could have them worrisome purchase fare with the tour packages offered by the Convention Tours to advance to ensure a seat for a cool luxury of the first class.

For reservations, please call 371-2273 to 75, e-mail cretos_nationaloffice@yahoo.com or log on to www.crebaph.ph.

WASHINGTON—A group of former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) spies and US special forces troops on Tuesday launched a political attack on President Barack Obama, accusing him of overlooking reckless leaks about sensitive operations.

The group claims to have no partisan affiliation, but the assault mirrored claims by Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney's campaign that the White House leaked classified details of the raid to kill Osama bin Laden.

In a 22-minute online video entitled "Unbreakable Disclosure" the former clandestine operatives alleged that the administration spilled secrets to Barack Obama's standing without regard for the safety of US troops and agents.

The "Special Operations Speak Disclosure Panel", comprising the military analysts for "operational security," includes members who have been active in Republican and right-leaning Tea Party campaigns.

A former member of the Navy Seal commandos, Kirk Taylor, who was audience to the politician-studded session Congress in Virginia in 2010, is identified as the group's president.

The Obama camp countered the attacks to ask that targeted former presidential candidate John Kerry in 2004, in which veterans questioned the senator's military record in the Vietnam War, as partial credit to cover up "Swift Boats."

"The Republicans are smearing to Swift Boat tactics because when it comes to foreign policy and national security, Mitt Romney has offered nothing but reckless rhetoric," spokesman Ben LaBolt said.

"We have major foreign policy challenges and Romney owes the American people an explanation about his foreign policy," he said.

The Obama campaign countered the Bin Laden raid and foreign policy issues generally as strong points for the president, portraying Romney as ill-informed and inexperienced.

The Open site accuses Obama of nothing to publicize details of the Bin Laden raid but now instead of nothing "to fully exploit The Greatest Story of Intimation," taken from the al-Qaida's compound in Pakistan.

Noting that US forces have suffered casualties at the hands of al-Qaida and its allies in Iraq and Afghanistan since the May 2011 raid, the group's website asks: "How many will be lost as a result of these weekly disclosures?"

Members of both political parties have expressed outrage over a series of disclosures about the Bin Laden raid, a double-agent that Obama ordered an al-Qaida terror plot and cyber sabotage of Iran's nuclear program.

Obama has denied the White House was behind any leak effort and officials say the president's administration has taken a tough line on disclosures of classified information, launching a number of prosecutions.

The Open group rejects comparisons with the 2004 Swift Boat ads and said its members were not part of that campaign, according to the New York Times.

The organization says it does not have to disclose its donors as it is registered as an educational group. AFP

Thousands of illegals in US queue for deportation deferral

LOS ANGELES—Last Tuesday, after at 17 was shocked to discover that she was not a US citizen, joined tens of thousands of illegal immigrants seeking to apply for a new deportation deferred program Wednesday.

Tenuta and others who undocumented parents or grandparents—but whose parents never studied the US legalize—are making the rules—ranging from their first three days, considers Obit bid to the beauty and charm of PPUR if you avail the Tour Package on October 20 for only P1,599 inclusive of round-trip airfare, transfers, accommodation, tour guide, a welcome dinner, all permit, terminal and entrance fees, coral and cultural orientation, and farewell cocktails.

Those who want for a long spread or suffer from delayed from due to overbooked reservations of any of these destinations if you could have them worrisome purchase fare with the tour packages offered by the Convention Tours to advance to ensure a seat for a cool luxury of the first class.

For reservations, please call 371-2273 to 75, e-mail cretos_nationaloffice@yahoo.com or log on to www.crebaph.ph.

must currently be younger than 31, have no criminal record and be in school or have earned his US military.

Immigrants of all ages, even photographs. Hispanic were in the line—ranging from grandparents to young parents pushing baby strollers.

Many spoke in Spanish, but the young people in line spoke mostly in English.

A group of Hispanic men carried a banner so will but dogs, sandwiches and bottled water, while one such vendor sold mangoes and tamarinds, a tropical Caribbean fruit hard to find in the United States.

"They came at sunrise and, just like us," the vendor said.

The residency plan could benefit up to 1.7 million people, advocates say.

Janet Murguia, one of the people in the line, moved to Anheuser Busch Missouri at her family's will when she was only three years old and she grew up speaking English.

"I was 12 years old and my English teacher was suggesting a trip to Europe—I really wanted to go," she said.

"I did not understand why they didn't let me go.

"Then I overheard my mother telling my aunt that she would like for me to go, but since we had no papers, I wouldn't leave the country," said Martinez, now 23 and a recent college graduate.

"I didn't understand how much that would affect me in the long term," she added.

Without proper papers there is no access to college funding or many doors of opportunity, she says Tenuta, as well as other economic disadvantages.

The crowd was lining up to enter the office of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) for information sessions.

"We've waited 20 years for the possibility of legalization, and even though this is temporary, it's a great opportunity," said Gisela Ipiñazaza, Reign Cabrera.

Obama's office action has it pandering to Hispanic voters ahead of the reelection battle against Republican challenger Mitt Romney, but he insists it is a "humane" gesture that will allow law enforcement to focus on criminals. AFP

SAMSUNG: The highest market share in unit and value sales in the Philippines

According to GfK Retail and Technology Philippines, Ltd., one of the world's leading market research groups. This research covers the period of July 2011 to June 2012. Market research findings such as these advises the trends in the purchasing reasons, whose buying actions only reflect the quality they get from the products they purchase. Evidently for mobile smartphones, Samsung is the brand to have.

Such growth may have been expected since the brand released the Samsung Galaxy series – the new breed of smartphones that are designed by humans for humans.

Samsung has always been saying more growth in the market, especially with the release of the Samsung Galaxy S III, the smartphone that goes head to head with the Apple iPhone. The Android-ice platform allows more flexibility for its users. This leap in the market is a success. Samsung is not shy to show.

So, as a gesture of thanks to the public for their continuous support of the brand, Samsung is having a "Thank You Sale." It's their way of saying, "Salamat, Pilipinas for making us the leading mobile phone brand."

From August 04 to September 02, 2012, you can purchase your choice Samsung mobile phones at great discounts with exciting freebies! One can own a Samsung Galaxy for as low as Php 790.

Also, during the sale period, the lower Samsung Galaxy S III comes with a free Exclusive Club Membership and a case protector. Other Samsung mobile brands are also offered at specially discounted rates.

This sale is a gesture of thanks from the brand that encourages people to recognize the possibilities. Because for Samsung, the time has come to realize that what was imagined before has already come true today.

With your own Samsung mobile phone, cast its promise of quality, your dreams could be a closer possibility.

See print ads and flyers for more details of the Samsung Thank You Sale or visit http://www.samsung.com/ph/ for more information.

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■ PH banks well capitalized, BSP says /B2-1

Editor Raul G. Marcelo ● Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano
BUSINESS

HAIRLOSS?
ULTIMATE HAIR GROWER

BIR misses tax collection target anew

July revenues totaled P83.5B, 4.4% short of goal

By Reena F.W. Domingo

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue collected P83.5 billion in July, again falling short of its monthly target after a rare feat in June when it exceeded the month's goal by about 8 percent.

According to BIR data released yesterday, July collections were 4.4 percent or P3.6 billion lower than the P87.4-billion goal for that month.

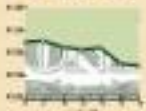
BIR records showed, however, that last month's yield was 13.2 percent or P9.7 billion higher than the P73.8 billion collected in July 2011.

Tax inflows in July brought revenues for the first seven months of the year to a total of P604.7 billion, nine-

Info A1

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
Aug. 16, 2012
42.290



STOCK MARKET
Aug. 16, 2012
47.15

Stocks fall ahead of long weekend

LOCAL stocks fell sharply on Philippine trade on Thursday as investors trimmed their positions ahead of the long weekend and ahead of the so-called "ghost month."

The main share Philippine Stock Exchange index shed 47.15 points or 0.8 percent to 5,219.01. All counters closed in the red, but the biggest decline was posted by the property sector which slumped by 1.42 percent.

The main index was weighed down by Metrobank (-0.68 percent), BDO (+0.69 percent), ALI (-2.30 percent), SMIC (-1.12 percent), Megaworld (-1.33 percent), SM Prime (-0.85 percent), Meralco (-2.4%), Aboitiz Power (-0.45 percent), ICTSI (-2.66 percent), URC (+1.63 percent) and Globe (-0.52 percent).

"Some fast buying the downturn were AGI, First Gen, FLOT and DMCI.

Dealers said the market also priced in on Thursday the impact of recent changes to the closely-watched MSCI index. During the latest MSCI main index review that will take effect on Aug. 31, there were weight reductions on Manpro and Metrobank and an increase for URC. There was likewise a weight reduction on Security Bank to the investible basket in

PTI/DOG B1

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'Hot money' investments surged in July

By Michelle V. Remo

NET inflow of foreign portfolio investments surged in July to the highest in nearly two years as the upgrade in the country's credit rating led to upbeat sentiment for the Philippines.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday reported that the net inflow of foreign "hot money," or investments by nonresidents in stocks, bonds and other portfolio assets from the country, hit $962.75 million in July.

This was up by more than three times from $301.95 million in the same month last year and a reversal of the net outflow of $7.09 billion in June.

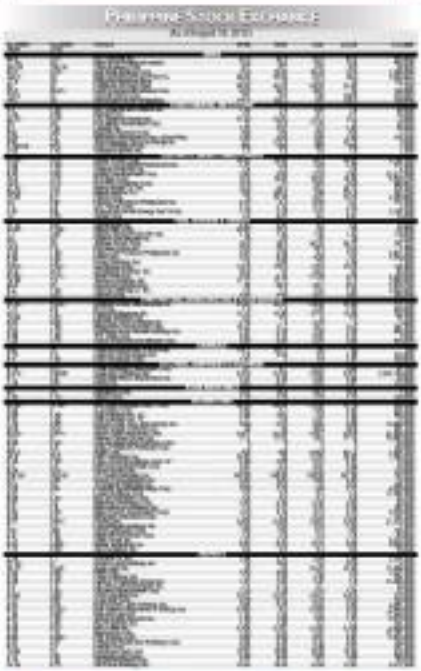
Data from the BSP showed that the net inflow in July this year was the highest in 26 months. The last time the net inflow reached more than $900 figure was in November 2010, when it stood at $1.67 billion.

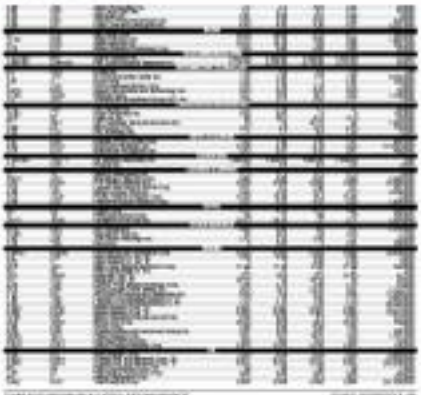
According to the central bank, gross inflow of foreign portfolio investments during the month amounted to $10.4 billion, while outflows reached $9.57 billion.

The inflows were mostly invested in public bills, bonds, particularly of property, banking, services and telecommunications companies.

The increase in "hot money" inflows during the month was credited to the improved

HOT MONEY/ B2





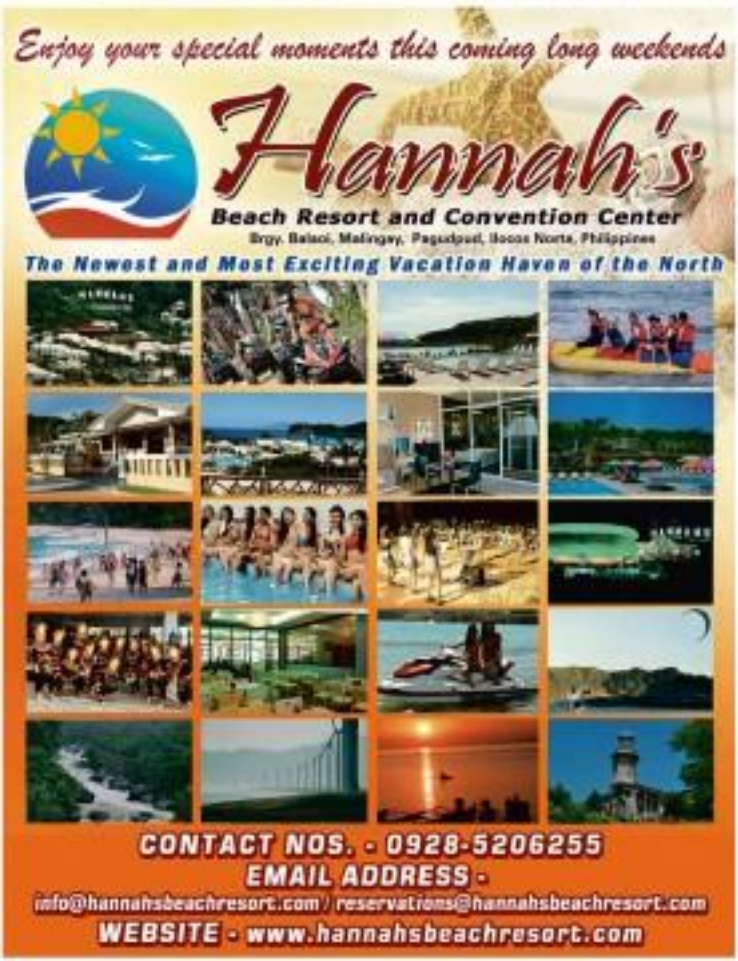
Stocks fall ahead of long weekend

From page B1

down and global credit ratings indices.

Gus Costales, president of First Metro Asset Management Inc., said to most investors have likely realized their objectives. He saw a stabilization of tariff rate on news. "People are expecting to consolidate their position as valuations are pretty close to where a lot of analysts put them," he said.

On the MSCI index review, there were weight decreases on Metrobank (-1.49 percent) and Meralco (-1.46 percent). On the other hand, there were weight increases on SM Investments (+3.33 percent), JSFC (+41.22 percent), PLDT (+3.24 percent), ALI (+3.22 percent) as well as small weight increases on SM Prime, AEV, BPI, AC, AP and ICTSI. *Doris C. Dumlao*



BIR misses

From page B1

ing the target of P921.7 billion by 2.8 percent or P10 billion.

Even then, the seven-month collection was 23.7 percent or P72.9 billion higher than the P848.8 billion posted in the same period of 2011.

"Collection from regional offices contributes consistent double-digit growth being registered for this year," the BIR said in a statement.

In July alone, regional offices turned in a total of P209.6 billion, which was P6 billion or 2.7 percent more than the collection made in the same month last year.

As for the Large Taxpayer Service, July collections reached P40.3 billion, which was P2.7 billion or 7.8 percent more than the year-ago level.

Last month, Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima said the "out-of-the-box" improvement to the national government's tax take, including those through the Bureau of Customs, resulted in a double-digit growth in revenue collections in the first semester.

"Since the start of the year, BIR's monthly collections have consistently exceeded that of the previous year, with June collection being the fourth month growing by double-digits," Purisima said, adding that the BOC was performing similarly.

He said that with the Congressional session having resumed, the Department of Finance is keen to see the passage of the proposed laws on the reform of excise taxes on tobacco and alcohol, as well as the rationalization of fiscal incentives.

Yesterday, following a Senate committee on ways and means hearing regarding the so-called sin tax bill, Secretary Ramon A. Cortesing said this—if it becomes a law—would raise additional revenues of at least P31 billion in the first year of implementation alone.

Cortesing said in a statement these funds would go to expanding basic health care for the poor.

"There are 17.3 million smokers in the Philippines," he said. "Many of them are from lower income classes, and some of their proper medical treatment when they develop illnesses from smoking."

'Hot money'

From page B1

credit ratings of the Philippines.

Standard & Poor's raised the country's credit rating to only July from two notches to just one notch below investment grade, citing improving macroeconomic fundamentals.

For the first seven months of the year, however, the net inflow of foreign portfolio investments was recorded at only $1.03 billion. This was down by 31 percent from $2.67 billion in the same period last year.

The decline in the first seven months was attributed to global risk aversion in the earlier months as the prolonged debt crisis in the euro zone dampened appetite for foreign investments, emerging-market assets, such as peso-denominated stocks and bonds.

Condo sales lifted AGI's H1 earnings

By Doris C. Dumlao

TAIWAN ADHERENT Touched Alliance Global Group Inc. grows its core and revenue contributor to continue to the first half by 22 percent year-on-year to P5.75 billion, led by a double-digit expansion in earnings by unit owner Megaworld Corp.

Megaworld experienced sound earnings by around 42 percent to 4Q5 net income and about 36 percent to geographic revenue. Megaworld's core net income amounted to P3.05 billion, up by 35 percent from the same period last year.

Including minority interest, AGI's six-month was cut to some accounted to P6.64 billion, up by 22 percent year-on-year. Taken out of the acquisition figure in 2011, its development and AGI's core income was a P5.13 billion non-recurring gain due to the acquisition of Global Estate Resorts in 2011.

AGI's consolidated revenues went up by 69 percent year-on-year to P11.07 billion in the first semester with the consolidation of leisure estate unit TravelBest based-tainted Hotel Group Inc. this year.

AGI chief finance officer Dina Inting added that the firm expects its Emperador brandy unit "to overdrive significantly in our group's earnings this year."

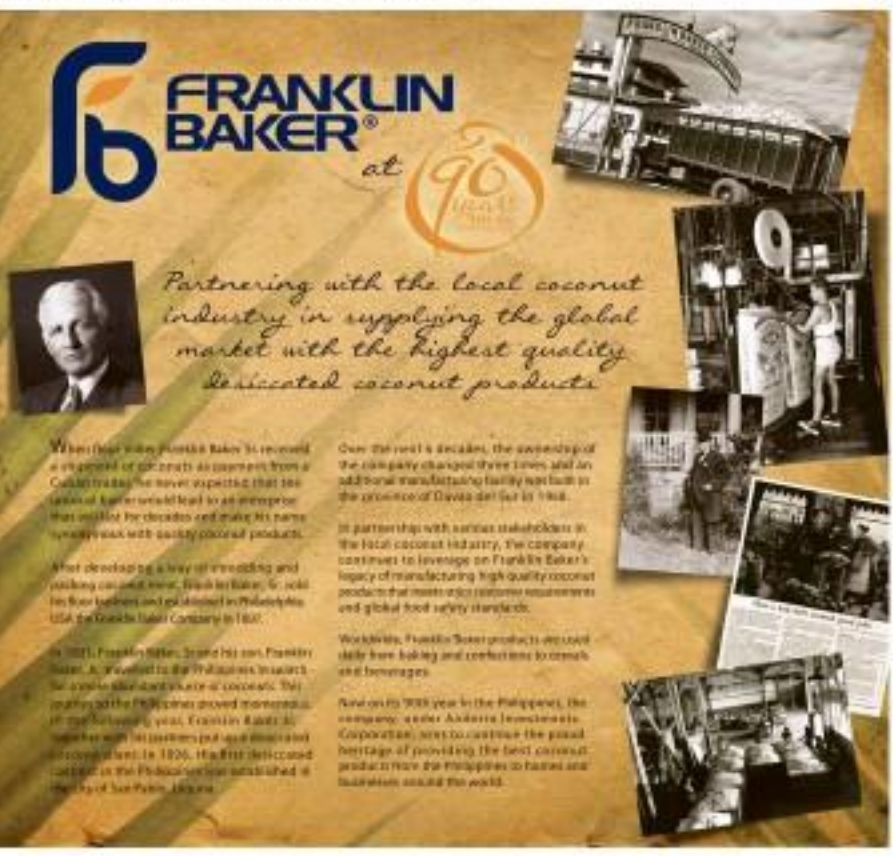
The official noted that Emperador was mostly assisted the number one selling brandy in the world in terms of volume by IBC-based Bruk Investment Magnate.

Megaworld reported total revenues of P15.43 billion in the first half, up 13 percent year-on-year. Its performances was backed by residential revenues booked out of previously sold units from its projects in Newport City, McKinley West, McKinley Hill, and Eastwood City. Libis area cited as a big contributor was driving leasing revenue from business process, outsourcing and retail portfolio.

MGI also reported their revenues and profits from the rest of AGI's portfolio of businesses led person in line with targets, without citing specific figures.

Apart from core revenue, AGI has interests in industries such as food and beverage, quick service restaurants and integrated tourism estates.

Food and beverage are Emperador Inc., Empire Inc., producer Emperador, Generoso and Emperador Light brandies and a line of flavored alcoholic beverages called The Bar. The company recently launched two new product variants of The Bar, called Cool The Bar Cuba Tequila and The Bar Allen Vodka.



DBP

Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on the following projects:

CODE NO.	DESCRIPTION	ABC (Approved Budget for the Contract)	LOCATION	BIDDING DOC. FEE (Php)
PHAC 2012-13				
	ANGELES DEV. AGENCY			
484482	Civil Engineering Contractual Job (NT Bldg. 2012-08-0482) (Lot 1-A-2-A-2-B-2-B-2-B

YABU

Editorial Feed Inc.
Fil-Ri MNI Corporation Center Puyat cor. Reliance Sts.
Barangay Bata Mandaluyong City
(02) 4MNI(4624) loc(1)(2), 1(3), 1(4)

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1. Restaurant Manager
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   - Minimum three (3) years old
   - At least 2 years management experience as Restaurant Manager
2. Kitchen Manager
   - Male or Female
   - Minimum three (3) years old as Kitchen Manager
   - Computer literate
3. HR Manager
   - Male or Female
   - At least 3 years experience as HR Manager
   - Good communication skills
   - Minimum three (3) years old
4. HR Assistant
   - Male or Female
   - At least 1 year experience as HR Assistant
   - College graduate
5. Cooks
   - Male Japanese endorsed (minimum experience of 5 years)
   - Minimum three (3) years old
   - Minimum high school graduate
6. Receptionist
   - Female, at least 5'4" in height
   - Minimum three (3) years old
   - At least two years of work experience in the same capacity preferably in a Japanese restaurant
   - Good communication skills
7. Servers
   - Male or Female
   - Minimum three (3) years old
   - Willing to wear ETT technician-inspired uniform
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Look for : Ging Alejandro (personnel) - ging.alejandro@yahoo.com

Notice to the Public

This is to inform the public that **MARICRIS BENETE ATUTUBO** of 173 Sitio Bilib, Brgy. 7, De Leon, Valenzuela City whose picture appears above is no longer connected with ROTOPACK MANUFACTURING CORPORATION since May 31, 2012.

Any transactions made by Ms. Benete-Atutubo on behalf of the company will not be honored. Please report any illegal/unauthorized transactions/activities to:

KING CAPADOCIO TAKA & ASSOCIATES
Tel No.: (+632) 7122512, 7122513

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DOLE-NCR Building, 901 Intramuros St.,
Malate, Manila

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office applications for Alien Employment Permits:

Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/ Nationality	Position
SALES EQUIPMENT AND PARTS CO., INC. (SEPCOM), Quadrant C, Bambang Malate Sts., Bambang Global City, Taguig City	Alfredo Cavanagh, Portuguese	Consultant
SAEKA ELC PHILS., INC. (HR 1208 Taytay Center Condo., Brand Dolan, San Antonio Village, Makati City/Pasig City)	Sinakhone Sun Korean	Operations Manager
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City)	Ro Quan Ha Vietnamese	Officer (Operations) Mandatory Conference Speaking (Unit 1)
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Hoai Thanh Hau Vietnamese	Officer (Operations) Mandatory Conference Speaking (Unit 1)
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Koh Lili Tee Malaysia	Bilingual Speaking Conference Executive
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Le Nhan Le Vietnamese	Bilingual Speaking (ESL) Mandatory Officer
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Chung Keng Seah Malaysia	Bilingual Speaking Conference Executive
IDNZ BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. (11/F Hufangbo Tower, KCBC Plaza, 8639 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Le Ni Hung Vietnamese	Officer (Operations) Mandatory Conference Speaking (Unit 1)
MCC PTE. LTD., INC. (Unit 702, Hufangbo Business Towers 1126 Ayala Ave., Brgy. Guadalupe Nuevo, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City)	Sung-Kwon Suhmeier Malaysia	Project Manager
MCC PTE. LTD., INC. (2701 Hufangbo Business Towers 1126 Ayala Ave., Brgy. Guadalupe Nuevo, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City)	Tang Kok Wai Malaysia	Project Director
BARUDAN COMPANY INC. (Lot No., Jaffe Alley, 2252-1, Bukod St., Pandan, Manila	Iwaki Hiroshi Kiyoe Bukkori Indian	Planning Officer
BARUDAN COMPANY INC. (Lot No., Jaffe Alley, 2252-1, Bukod St., Pandan, Manila	Lakshmi Singh Tyagi Indian	Salesman
BARUDAN COMPANY INC. (Lot No., Jaffe Alley, 2252-1, Bukod St., Pandan, Manila	Ranjeshwar Nath Indian	Purchasing Manager
TAISEI ALLTECH CONSTRUCTION (PHIL.), INC. (Unit 1, No. 2, Rm. 1005, 126 P.S. Cerio Cebu St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Toshiro Takahashi Japanese	Assistant Project Manager
TAISEI ALLTECH CONSTRUCTION (PHIL.), INC. (Unit 1, No. 2, Rm. 1005, 126 P.S. Cerio Cebu St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Hiroshi Imazumi Japanese	Sr. Project Manager
TAISEI ALLTECH CONSTRUCTION (PHIL.), INC. (Unit 1, No. 2, Rm. 1005, 126 P.S. Cerio Cebu St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Motohiro Fukuno Japanese	Project Manager
MIRDEN PHILIPPINES, INC. (14/F Net Lake, 3rd Avenue corner 30th St., E Square Zone, Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	Eiji Hiroto Nagai Japanese	Director

Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/ Nationality	Position
CONSORCIA ANA ENCARNACION (Unit 4 NO Aure Bldg., 144 Aure St., corner Hilltop, Makati City	Douglas Andrew Sergio Australian	Chief Executive Specialist
PLAN-EXPO PHILIPPINES, INC. (4/F Multinational Bancorp Centre, Ayala Avenue, Makati City	Prakash Kodik Indian	President
SKYVIEW VENTURES, CALSO BRANDS and ISUMO CHI SCHOOL, INC. (3/F Aurel St., Greenhills West, San Juan, Metro Manila	Narayanan Aiang Chinese	Director, Teacher
MIRU ENGINEERING ASIA PACIFIC INC. (8/F SLI Center, 126, Perfect Speaks St., 600 Cibi Sist., Bolanos, Quezon City	Jaichad Sasaki Indian	Chief Manager
ARIS PHILIPPINES POWER PARTNERS CO. LTD. (L2/F Filwaltic Gas Bldg., 4th Ave. cor. 27th St., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	Md. Tajul Islam Bangladeshi	Technical Director for Engineering Projects
BIG & T TRADING COMPANY (Unit 6 Conchuco Ln. Brgy. ###, Cavo 344, Valenzuela City	Lingaraj Kaur Brar Indian	Operations Manager
NOVEN D. CORP. (15/F MDC Plaza, Buchanan Street, 8639 Ayala Avenue, Makati City	Richard Sollick Canadian	Business Development Manager - Asia
BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Weimin Zhang Chinese	Customer Service
BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Jinsong Qin Chinese	Technical Support
BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Peng Sun Chinese	Customer Service
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BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Xiaomeng Sun Zhang Chinese	Customer Service
BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Yiwen Zhang Chinese	Customer Service
BLAST COAST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (L 2/3 Oakland Avenue Tower, Bolkiss cor. Adlaw St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City	Yan Xu Chinese	Customer Service

If you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned applications, please communicate with the Regional Director.

ATTY. ALADIN RAFAEL DEV D
Regional Director

Biggest China machinery, technology show at SMX

A COMPREHENSIVE SHOWCASE OF OVER 10,000 electronic products and machineries ranging from automotive and motorcycle parts and accessories, electrical products, electronic household appliances, equipment and machinery, industrial and hardware products. Food processing and packing machinery from China will be made available for local distributors, traders and importers at the 8th China Machinery and Electronic Products Exhibition which opened yesterday at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia Complex in Pasay City. The expo will run until Aug. 19.

Interested trade buyers will be able to meet leading Chinese manufacturers and suppliers face-to-face here. An estimated 25,000 trade buyers from around the country are expected to enjoy exclusive discounted wholesale and retail rates on purchases made on-site. Show hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 17 and from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 19. The show is free to the public.

Organized by the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products, this largest Chinese industry event will occupy an exhibit area of 16,000 sq.m. Interested visitors can pre-register online with the local event manager, Global-Link MP Events International Inc. at www.globallinkmp.com, call 740-8988/10-8716 or e-mail info@globallinkmp.com.

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AKA WELSON LOH
AKA WILSON TAN

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ACDI A18
BSP A19
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BSP A26
City Gov't. of Zamboanga A36
La Union Electric Cooperative A36
Municipality of Lawaan A36

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

OBITUARIES

"I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in Me will live, even when he dies, and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." – John 11:25-26

Our Dearly Beloved

Ma. Lourdes Javier Agunod

Now peacefully rests in the infinite Grace & Goodness of the Lord
On the 14th day of August 2012
at the age of 72

She is survived by her husband **Benjamin**; children **Michael, Anthony** and **Emily, Patricia** and **Christopher, Vincent** and **Liezl**; grandchildren **Arianne, Breanna Patricia, Alexander, Adriel, Aaron** and **Bianca Patricia**; brothers, sisters, other relatives and friends. We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at **St. Peter Parish Shrine of Leaders Columbary, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City** on Monday, August 20, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.

BUSINESS

Research for calamities and revival

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

THE HEAVY monsoon rains and Typhoon Helen that swept through the country in recent weeks had caused significant damage to both lives and property.

The difficult task to regain what was lost begins and good research can provide much needed help, especially in the battered agriculture sector.

The coordinating agency for agriculture research is the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) of the Department of Agriculture. Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala should be commended for doubling the BAR budget from P500 mil. [illegible] to P700 mil. [illegible] upon his assumption into office. The BAR budget for this year is P741 million, while the proposed budget for next year is P900 million.

While already increased, we believe that this budget is still not enough considering the many challenges in the agriculture sector.

COMMENTARY

Addressing calamities

Two weeks ago, we wrote about the massive infestation of coconut scale insects (CSI) that threatened the coconut industry in Batangas. Just in Bauan, no a lone to coffee dwellers, the killing of coconut trees by CSI is no less a calamity to coconut farmers who stand to lose their livelihood.

The BAR and the CSRI in Quezon co-Coconut Scale Insects come together to stop the calamity from spreading and they rolled out research.

Prior to the partnership, research on CSI was rather known or used. While the research, the calamity is now being controlled and the revival of the coconut industry in Batangas is underway.

Research can thus do three things: (1) prevent the harm from occurring; (2) minimize the [illegible] if the harm has already occurred; and (3) restore, revive, and even accelerate the progress that occurred before the harm took place.

Fortunately, Alcala is pursuing the commendable action of allocating more DA resources to the right areas. BAR Director Nilo Ebuna is properly positioned to implement Alcala's directive effectively. He is an excellent agriculturist and an outstanding manager.

After getting his agriculture (undergraduate) degree from CPSC, he obtained a master's degree in Management from Cranfield University in England and a doctorate in Rural Development from the Central Luzon State University in Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

He also got ISO 9000 accreditation for BAR to help ensure the efficient delivery of research services. He believed that the BAR should address existing and potential problems, rather than be confined to basic research.

Key areas

The budget of BAR can go to three key recipients in the near term. The first are the DA laboratories, especially those engaged in tissue culture. For example, farmers can plant disease-resistant crop varieties. In partnership with the government, the farmers can propagate and spread these varieties to many other farmers.

The second are the DA Crop Protection Centers. Farmers can not only learn the best methods of stopping the harm from existing pests and diseases; they can also prevent this damage from starting. In the case of the CSIs, the use of heavy chemical fertilizers for the soils in coconuts killed the beneficial insects, which could have prevented CSI infestation. Research would have shown that organic farm-trapping is better than chemical-based agriculture.

The third are the DA Research Stations. This is where appropriate post-harvest facilities and health and welfare applications of agriculture products can be installed. For example, Da Research Center has [illegible] research on recipes that resulted in the production of health products such as sarguano tea, soup and wine.

Recommendation

Given the great potential of agriculture as a source of employment, we recommend that the budget be [illegible] to P1.5 billion in [illegible].

If our country's poverty is the problem, more resources on agriculture research is certainly one of the solutions.

(The author is chair of Agrisearch. For inquiries and suggestions, email agrisearch_phil@yahoo.com or skype: [illegible])

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PH banks well capitalized, BSP says

By Michelle V. Rivera

PHILIPPINE banks have enough capital to withstand risks such as loan defaults prompted by exposure of corporate borrowers to the raging eurozone crisis, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The BSP yesterday reported that the banks' average capital adequacy ratio (CAR) stood at 16.65 percent at the end of 2011, exceeding the 10-percent minimum requirement.

This was the report that details the 8-percent floor prescribed by the international community under Basel III, which is a set of global standards on bank regulation.

The latest CAR was better than the 16.44 percent registered at the end of September of 2011 and the 16.02 percent recorded at the end of 2010.

One of the key indicators of financial health of banks, CAR is the proportion of capital to the estimated amount of risk-weighted assets (RWA).

Combined capital of banks amounted to P903.6 billion, while risk-weighted assets were estimated at P4.65 trillion.

"The Philippine banking system remains resilient," the BSP said in a statement, citing the latest report on bank capitalization in the country.

All banking sub-sectors in the country posted CARs above 10 percent at the end of last year, the central bank said.

The universal and commercial banking sub-sector registered an average CAR of 14.66 percent, thrift banking sector, 33.86 percent; rural banking sub-sector, 19.44; and cooperatives banking sub-sector, 15.75 percent.

There were 726 banks operating in the country as of end-2011. Total banking network, which includes head offices and branches of banks, stood at 9,886, central bank data showed.

There were 38 universal and commercial banks, 71 thrift banks and 617 rural and cooperative banks.

Besides healthy capitalization, Philippine banks are also enjoying growing profits and retained rigorous to bad debts, the BSP said.

need a job?

AVID vehicle sales up 27% as of July

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE ASSOCIATION of Vehicle Importers and Distributors, Inc. (AVID) reported Thursday a 27-percent year-on-year increase in vehicle sales in the January-July period amid sluggish economic recovery.

AVID reported that combined sales of passenger cars and light commercial vehicles of its members reached 16,017 units in the first seven months of 2012 from 24,159 units in the same period last year.

In the same period, the passenger car segment boosted overall sales, which grew by 32 percent to 13,906 units from 7,188 units sold last year.

July alone registered a growth of 29 percent in aggregate sales of passenger cars and light commercial vehicles to 2,210 units from 1,671 units sold in the same month last year.

"Making up the membership of an upbeat line-up and economically-friendly models, AVID members, with their roster of reliable quality models have maintained highly competitive sales figures versus overall industry sales. Matched by sustained marketing efforts and excellent customer service, AVID expects its far even better numbers for the remaining five months of 2012," AVID president Hon. Fr Peter Agnelo said in a statement.

AVID members are Mini Cooper distributor Rimtuli United Automobiles, Inc., Mercedes Benz distributor GMA Motors, Inc., Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc., Volvo dealership Inchcape Motors, Subaru distributor Motor Image Philippines, Inc. and Chevrolet distributor The Covenant Car Company, Inc. (TCCC).

Century H1 earnings rise 91% to P944M

By Daniel L. Lucas

PESELEZ listed Century Properties Group Inc. is spending about P7 billion for its current projects this year, as it reported strong sales and earnings for the first half of the year.

In a recent briefing, company officials said Century Properties' net income for the first semester of 2012 rose by 91 percent to P944 million from P496 million in the same period last year.

Century chief financial officer Jose Carlo R. Ignacio added that the company—known for its projects endorsed by socialite Paris Hilton and businessman Donald Trump—generated P5.4 billion in pre-sales in the second quarter.

Of this amount, 15, 40 and 45 percent came from the company's sales in the luxury, middle income and affordable market segments, respectively.

For the first half, Century's pre-sales stood at P8.67 billion, or an 18-percent growth from year-ago level. This also represents 54 percent of its P20-billion 2012 pre-sales target.

The company said it had extended "its industry leader in international sales," with 66 percent of its sales in the first half, or P7.1 billion, coming from the international market.

"Century continues to innovate its business plan of developing products that are relevant for today's marketplace," he said. "We remain steadfast in our attempt to diversify."

The company's total revenue in the first half of 2012 rose by 133 percent to P9.9 billion from P5.1 billion in the same period in last year.

In the second quarter of 2012 alone, total revenue stood at P5.5 billion, up 1.6x percent from year-ago level. Total income in the same period rose by 26 percent to P495 million.

At the end of the first half, Century's total debt stood at P5.4 billion, representing a total debt-to-equity ratio of 1.9 percent. Its net debt-to-equity ratio was 38 percent.

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Allied Bank, East West report growth in H1 profits

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By Doris C. Dumlao

TWO commercial banks yesterday reported growth in profits for the first semester of the year due to healthy earnings from core lending and fee-based services, and hefty trading gains.

Triple Earle Started Allied Banking Corp. posted a 53.74-percent year-on-year jump in its first semester attributable net profit to P520.66-million.

East West Bank of the Soriamont also registered a 3.99-percent improvement in its first-half net to P520 million in the same period last year.

For the second quarter, however, Allied Bank's net profit fell by 43 percent to P249.9-million due to rising overhead expenses and foreign exchange losses.

Including minority interest, Allied Bank's net profit for the first semester amounted to P532.361-million, 30.66 percent higher year-on-year. This is an adjusted result as the bank's share in Metro Pacific Investments Corp. by P56.25-million or P0.72 percent on the back of increase in trading gain for P666.646-million or 475.27 percent, commissions and handling charges for P249.91 million or 82.01 percent, and miscellaneous income for P54.379-million or 8,900 percent.

On the expenditure side, Allied Bank slashed its interest expense by P9.01E million or 1.47 percent, particularly interest on deposit liabilities.

East West Bank's second quarter net profit went up by 2 percent to P65-million due to core earnings growth and trading income on fixed income securities.

For the first semester, the bank's operating income went up by 32 percent year-on-year to P4.48 billion as core earnings—composed of net interest and fee-based income—surged by 9%% million or 1% percent. Specifically, net interest income went up by 26 percent year-on-year to P2.76 billion while fee-based income increased by 37 percent to P982-million.

East West Bank's operating income was boosted by securities and foreign exchange trading gains which increased by 350 percent and 52 percent, respectively, to P676-million and P134.7 million.

In the meantime, Chino Bank Corp. posted a 14.27-percent year-on-year drop in its first semester profit to P109.8-million due to lower margin on lending and the cost drag of its business expansion.

The six-month figure translated to a 10.05-percent return on equity (ROE) and 1.6%-percent return on assets.

Total interest income declined by 1.01 percent year-on-year to P6.27 billion. The growth in its loan portfolio led to a 9.02-percent year-on-year rise in interest income from loans and receivables to P4.205 billion. The gains were however offset by the 14.40-percent drop in income from trading and investment securities.

Total interest income was computed at 9.9 percent, down from 12.2 percent last year.

Capital market developments

Khrul J. Fabiberosa

THE BIGGEST new shares offering made in the country—P90.25 billion—was launched by San Miguel Corp. early this week and would touch on Sept. 14.

Some 1,805 lucky unwavering preferred shares reduced 97% per share will be issued by SMC to interested buyers. The proceeds will be used to redeem the preferred shares earlier issued in exchange for common shares and for general corporate purposes.

In June, Ayala Land Inc. issued voting perfected shares by way of rights offering, i.e. limited to existing stockholders, as opposed to IPO, open to anybody here and now additional capital for its expansion programs.

In the same month, SM Investment Corp. made a P13.8-billion public bond offer to serve the financing requirements of its burgeoning office and hotel business.

In April, GT Capital Holdings Inc., the flagship company of business tycoon George Ty, raised P24.4 billion from the first initial public offering conducted this year.

With the continued improvement of the business climate in the country despite international political situation, more companies are expected to offer shares of stocks or corporate bonds to raise additional capital for existing and future projects.

Obligations

These fundraising activities show that public companies are resisting the temptation from traditional means of raising capital—shareholders equity and borrowings from financial institutions.

It is understandable for startup businesses and small companies to rely on the personal resources of their stockholders or seek loans from banks to raise the capital needed to sustain their operations.

However, not all stockholders have deep pockets or are willing to risk all their money in business ventures, more so if the financial stability of these families is put on the line.

Neither can all banks be expected to be open to guarantee to their clients on the basis of their business. Bank executives have established the reason is, who reject their investments to stop responsible actions through the judgment requirement of bank executives.

It is unreasonable to assume that heavy reliance on banks and credit institutions for operations by big businesses has been exempted by many companies that collapsed during the recent 1997 Asian financial crisis.

A financial lineup in Thailand helped draw up speculative connection loans about the confidence of foreign and local banks to rely on them on the ability of their clients to meet their obligations.

Scared (or about to panic) about possible loan defaults, the banks either called in their loans ahead of the due dates or demanded additional collaps to protect their interests. Highly leveraged businesses were found to cross operations or roll out.

Properties

The advantage of raising capital through stock offerings or bonds and other forms of investment indebtedness is the companies are not held hostage to the terms and conditions that banks impose on borrowers.

Aside from paying different kinds of fees, debtor companies are obliged to, among others, submit periodic reports about the project covered by the loan, disclose material changes in their operations and maintain the financial ratios on which the banks based their decision to lend money.

If the loan is, for example, is secured by a mortgage on the company's stocks or properties, the company has to make sure the value of these stocks or properties does not go below their pre-agreed valuation, otherwise it will have to put up additional stocks or properties to make up for the drop in the value.

Worse, a slip up in loan compliance could have adverse consequences under credit standing of the errant company.

In such offerings or corporate bond issuances, the initial cuts involve underwriting expenses, regulatory fees and professional fees, for the lawyers and accountants who will prepare the necessary legal and financial documents.

Once the stocks or bonds are sold and the money secured, the company's tasks will all pass to bookkeeping, i.e., informing the stockholders of corporate activities, sending dividends to preferred shareholders, or remitting interest payments to the banks for coupons to the bondholders.

Shared risks

A person who buys stocks—common or preferred—becomes part owner of the firm. As a stockholder, he shares in the risks of the business, and if it earns profits, he can look forward to receiving dividends. If it does not, he has to suffer with the rest of the stockholders the loss of the value of their investments.

He is not considered a creditor whom the company must reimburse the money he paid for the stocks—see the loan Boundary.

A similar kind of risk is also assumed by buyer of corporate bonds. Bonds are offered and sold on the assumption that the issuing company will be able to make good on its promise to pay interests as they fall due and return the principal when the bond matures.

By the nature of their relationship, a bondholder is a creditor of the company issuing them, in case the company goes bankrupt, the bondholder will be entitled like any other creditor to the distribution of the firm's assets.

Whether stocks or bonds, it is essential that the buyer examines the financial statements and track record of the company in determining the probability of its obligations.

(For feedback, please write to <spdabs-mail@inquirer.com.ph>.)

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Cirtek posts 4% income increase

LAGUNA-based semiconductor manufacturer Cirtek Holdings Philippines Corp. posted a 4-percent year-on-year profit growth in the first semester on $2.8 million despite a challenging market environment.

Consolidated sales during the period grew by 5 percent to $ 9.3 million from year ago.

In a statement, Cirtek said the first six months of 2012 was "challenging" for the global semiconductor industry given the European debt crisis, sluggish US economy and the slowdown in China's growth which adversely affected demand for electronic products.

However, the company said demand for semiconductors in the second half was likely to be "much stronger as the industry appears to have rationalized on its new growth cycle."

Cirtek said the first semester growth was driven mainly by customer- and application-specific packages, the company's core expertise.

The company also sees growth in the semiconductor industry to be driven by markets in communications, automotive, industrial electronics and LED applications.

Doris C. Dumlao

Greenenergy eyes ₱415-M infusion from Swiss fund

By Amy R. Borres

GREENENERGY Holdings Inc. (formerly MUSIC Corp.) is expecting a ₱415-million capital infusion from Chamroth Privatgesellschaft AG, a fund managed by Thomas Lyle Zickel from Management International AG of Zurich.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Greenergy said it has signed an investment agreement with Chamroth, which was expected to subscribe to 20.750 billion-peso shares of Greenergy for 2 centavos per share or a total subscription price of ₱415.5 million.

Greenergy said it was planning to invest the amount in the new 18-megawatt biomass power plant of San Carlos BioPower Inc. in the Visayas. The project will be undertaken by a subsidiary that Greenergy is planning to establish.

Data from the website of San Carlos BioPower showed that the 18-MW biomass facility would be a greenfield stand-alone power plant that could supply baseload power to the local grid. The facility will use sugarcane residues as feedstock.

"The facility will provide electricity to an area where there is short supply of and increasing demand for power, and will provide an additional source of income to the local farming community, says Carlos BioPower is committed to providing sustainable power from renewable sources of energy and to maintaining the environmental integrity of the surrounding area upon its completion in late 2013," San Carlos BioPower said.

In the meantime, Greenergy disclosed that it was expecting additional subscription agreements with Chamroth totaling P262 million worth of shares. These are expected to be completed within 45 days from the closing of the first agreement.

Greenergy is also investing in local limited liaw Isabela Alegan Corp., which is engaged in the manufacturing and trading of ethanol and other biofuels.

It earlier acquired the so-called "usufruct" rights to 15,000 hectares of land in connection with its plan to put up a sugarcane feedstock and power plant.

Greenergy is also into renewable energy projects and has plans to embark on $1.3 billion worth of wind power projects in the country which will have more than 1,000 megawatts in combined capacity over the next 10 years.

It has teamed up with China-based Tianjin Taishan Investment and Development Corp. (TTDC) for the joint development, funding and operation of the proposed renewable energy projects.

SM Investment Corp. chief financial officer Jose Ilac and SM Foundation executive director Connie Angeles exchange views during the media and analysts briefing on SMIC's first-half financial performance.

Going the extra mile--
BDO Auto Loan

From a low of P13.00 per liter back in 2008, consumers nowadays spend an average of P40.00 to P50.00 per liter on unleaded gas. Even for those with fuel efficient vehicles, driving from one place to another on a day-to-day basis can still be costly. This is why consumers react to an assortment of options to save.

As an alternative, some opt to purchase diesel fueled vehicles - more economical and cost efficient than it's gasoline engine counterpart. While for others, converting to LPG has become a viable option. Some would even go the extra mile of locating and comparing prices from various gas stations situated in different areas to find that one station that can provide the lowest cost of fuel.

These and more are the considerations why BDO Auto Loan launched the Free Gas Promo!

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"We take pride in being able to work closely with our clients in creating financing packages that best suit their individual needs. But apart from that, BDO Auto Loan also brings forth various initiatives and programs geared towards giving our clients value added perks and services. And the BDO Auto Loan Free Gas Promo is a perfect example of going beyond just providing funding to purchase a new car," says Antonio O. Pedro, BDO Retail Vice President and Consumer Lending Group Auto Loan Business Head.

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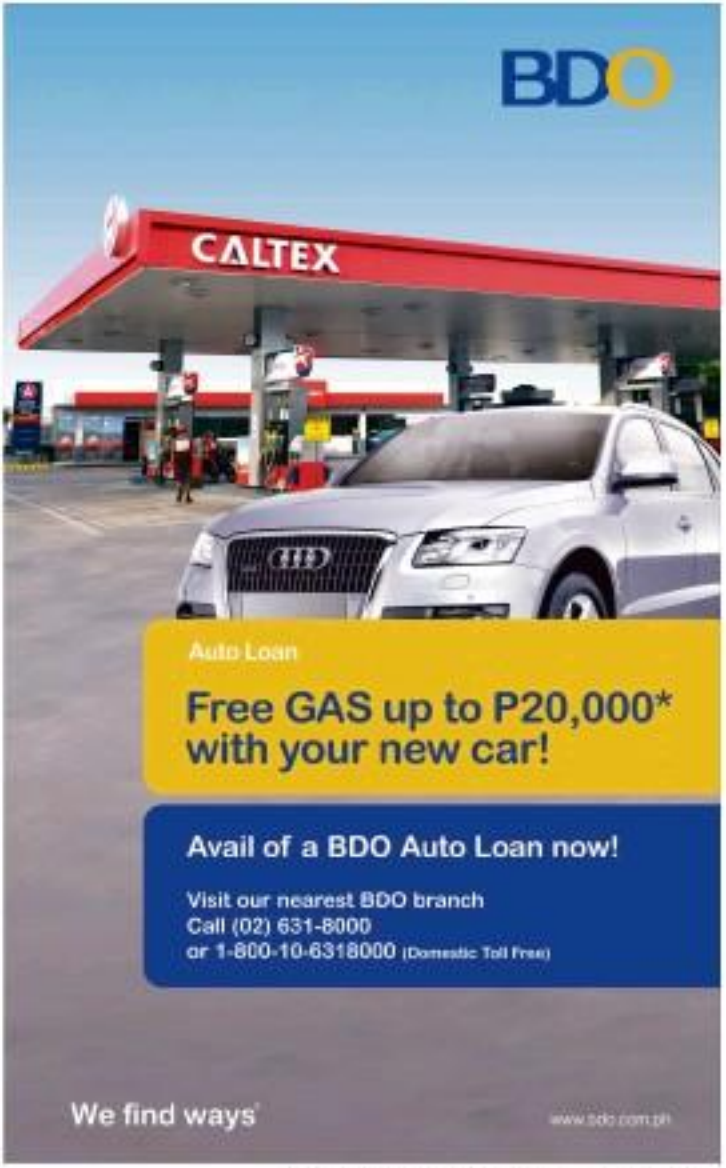

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PUSHING GENERICS

'There's more to Watsons than beauty products'

By Corrie Salvador-Mariano

Lyra

BUY Generics' customers were just up to make it easier for consumers to find the medicines they need.

WATSONS, Asia's leading pharmacy brand, has been in the country for 10 years now. It has been doing well, retailing both beauty and health products, with its branch network expected to exceed 310 by the end of 2012.

Robert Sim, Watsons Personal Care Stores (Phils.) Inc. general manager, is quick to admit though that the local market thinks of Watsons more as a beauty store rather than both a drug and beauty/wellness store.

"There's more to Watsons than just beauty products," Sim says, referring not only to the wide array of products that the store carries but also to the company's commitment to help Filipinos consumers look and feel good. It is up to us to educate our customers by providing them with medicine and wellness products at affordable prices, and ensure services to keep the customers interested.

While Watsons sells both branded and generic medicine, Sim says it gives the latter an extra push to make sure that Filipinos who need them can find they have a choice and to enable those who have very little budget to afford their required medication.

Useful tips

The extra push comes in the form of its "Buy Generics Smart" campaign, which is aimed at educating the consumers about generic drugs, particularly on how to choose the right drugs and the benefits that can be derived from using them.

"We are trying to correct the perception of many that generic drugs are not effective. That misinformation has been given all these unregulated imported drugs mainly from China and India, but there are a lot of generic drugs that are as effective as their branded counterparts and are 70 to 80 percent cheaper," says Sim.

He says consumers only need to know how to choose them. This, in its campaign, Watsons shares some tips on how to pick the right drugs.

They say the right ones, according to Watsons, if the drugs were manufactured by trained pharmaceutical companies, approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and sold by reputable pharmacy retailers.

"We mostly observe three criteria. We carry only generic medicines that are made by trusted manufacturers and approved by the FDA. We want to tell the consumers that if they buy from Watsons, they are assured of the efficacy and quality of the drugs. We will never carry substandard medicines," Sim stresses.

Generic medicines carried by Watsons are those produced by companies, Unilab Laboratories, Pascual Laboratories, Rivmed, Sovereign and Pharex.

Extra services

Also, all pharmacists and pharmacy assistants at Watsons, he says, are trained on a continuing basis on how to read prescriptions and sell medicines but also to engage the customers in informative discussions about the drugs they are buying.

"Where promoted prescriptions by the buyers, our pharmacists are trained to counsel them, address their concerns and persuade to those alternative generic drugs. The pharmacists explain to the buyers what the drugs are for, why they should not miss taking them and the expected effects of the drugs on them," Sim says.

One people take time to talk to the customers. We try to make our customers understand why the specific drugs were given to them. [We also] recommend cheaper but equally effective alternatives. We accommodate all questions from them," he adds.

Watsons' efforts to push generic drugs are not confined to its stores.

It has tied up with various medical associations and pharmacy schools to promote the inclusion in school curricula of subjects that deal with generic drugs and will teach future pharmacists how to become more cost-wise and add value to their services.

Compliance packs

Stepping up its generic drugs campaign, Watsons moves to consider its customers to find the generic counterparts of their branded medications. This is by putting up, in its stores "Buy Generics counters," which will not only carry all generic drugs the stores are selling but also offer the so-called Watsons Compliance Packs for chronic and acute diseases, and Watsons Health Packs for common ailments such as headache, stomach ache, colds and allergies.

These compliance packs, which are sold at the lowest possible prices, are aimed at making it affordable for consumers to complete the dosage of the medicines prescribed to them by their doctors.

The packaging of the compliance packs looks the same, with the name of the manufacturer, Unilab, and the expiration, Watsons.

"We just can assure on those because we added to the efficiency and quality of the drugs in these packs," Sim says.

"Due to the prohibitive cost of branded medicines, some people stop taking their medicines without completing the dosage prescribed. This is not good because by doing so, one develops immunity to the drug. The cost issue is addressed, as the generic drugs in these packs cost 70 to 80 percent lower than the branded drugs," he explains.

The campaign for generics is paying off.

"About six out of 10 customers of drugs for chronic diseases, or those with maintenance, have already shifted to generics, he says.

Experience

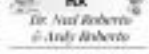
Watsons Philippines, a partnership between the A.S. Watson Group of Hong Kong and A.M Pratts Holdings, is convinced it should reach out to more markets and expand its generics campaign. It is continuing its aggressive expansion, with the objective of putting up an average of 40 stores yearly.

"We are putting up stores in places where we think we can deliver retail, on a combination of them. That's why we are mainly in malls and condominiums. For the smaller communities, we put up our stores in SaveMore, SM's community stores," Sim says.

He says Watsons also makes sure that buying from its stores will be a good shopping experience for the consumers.

"We keep our stores clean, fashionable and organized. We believe Filipinos like to shop in an environment that they can enjoy from start find our stores intimidating, but they will get used to them and enjoy the outing."

'How do we know if our brand really has market leadership?'



Dr. Ned Roberto & Andy Roberto

Q: YOU ONCE told us that if our brand has the highest market share in our category, we are the market leader. That was quite some time ago in early '80s when we were your MBM students at ADM.

About a month ago, we asked two of our brand managers who attended your brand equity session to share with the rest of their colleagues what they learned. One of the things they echoed was this: When you talked about brand equity, it seemed that one of your side remarks said that "market share is not enough to establish your brand's market leadership." While that was something said in passing, it was important for the two of us as partner owners of this medium size consumer supplemental company. We need that has attained the highest market share.

Will you please just quickly explain what you meant by that side remark? Please tell us what then is enough for us to know if our brand really has market leadership.

A: Thank you for the question. As speakers and marketing professors your question reminded us that things said "in passing" have a way of touching certain sensitivities of our students. But at the same time, it was good that the side remark provided your question.

Your definition of a brand's market leadership in terms of the market share metric was popular in the '80s when you learned it. We're not saying that this metric is no longer a true metric today. It still is but as your two brand managers reported market share is no longer the only metric of market leadership.

Over the years, marketing continues to change and advance as a "science." In the mid '80s, it was Michael Porter with the publication of his best-selling book, Competitive Advantage: Creating and Sustaining Superior Performance, who popularized "market share" as the metric of market leadership. That was a welcome contribution to the advancement of the marketing discipline and to brand management in particular.

There in the same decade, 1985 specifically, Al Ries and Jack Trout, "came out" with their very best seller, Positioning: The Battle for Your Mind. This book redefined market leadership but it was not the metrics that provided the metrics for this new definition of market leadership. Among the marketing academicians, it was Philip Kotler who two or three years after in his now-edition of his popular Marketing Management textbook, offered "share of mind" as the market leadership metric in the competitive arena. For the convenience of those who were in the classroom, it was marketing academician who coined the concept into being that said: "Share of mind precedes share of market." The logical support for the "truth" of this concept came from the consumer behavior literature. Its research said: "Every external change in consumer behavior is preceded by an internal change." Think opposite references to the two metrics, the translation is: "Love/wanting to store buying is preceded by less top-of-mind awareness to more top-of-mind awareness."

Aside from the simplicity and elegance of this logic, the concept had also a practical marketing utility. For example, at one time here's the fruits of market and share of mind metrics for Colgate toothpaste and Close-up:

There came to be two market leadership metrics: "share of market" and "share of mind"

Share of market: Colgate—38 percent; Close-up—10 percent

Share of mind: Colgate—38 percent; Close-up—10 percent

According to the "product" in the marketing concept existing share of mind is share of market, here's what's likely to happen: "If Close-up continues doing what it has been doing and Colgate continues not doing anything about it, Colgate's 42 percent market share will go down to the level of its 38 percent share of mind and Close-up's market leadership. On the other hand, with the same set of "do," Close-up's 27 percent market share will go up to the level of its 48 percent market share and grab market leadership." At this time, it was probably these predictions that alerted and provoked Colgate to initiate its counselling to prevent what could have happened and to retain market leadership.

Then, five or six years later, an MIT Professor, Michael Treacy, together with Fred Wiersema [of the Customer Intimacy fame] published their own best-seller, The Discipline of Market Leaders: Choose Your Customers, Narrow Your Focus, Dominate Your Market. A third new metric of market leadership came to the arena of "share of heart."

There were several specific metrics of share of heart that have been proposed. It was a Vlendis'kehr Universe product, Patricia Richard Dilver whose three related share of heart metrics that have come to be most cited. He termed these as: (1) a "negative-centric" share of heart, (2) an "effective-heart" share of heart, and (3) a "positive-centric" share of heart. Overall though, the share of heart metric has remained controversial and awaits the next step of establishing its relationship to share of mind and share of market to finally consolidate a refuge as a triunity of market leadership metrics. In the meantime, you might want to at least recognize the first two market leadership metrics of share of mind and share of market.

Keep your questions coming. Send them to us at MktRx@MarketingRx.com or drned.marketingrx@gmail.com. *Ned Nimo*

Bread making and cake baking seminar set

BAKING is a science and there are certain rules which should not be followed to have success. Learn the science behind everything from baking bread and cake baking.

The Golden Bounties Skills and Development Program will conduct a one-day seminar on bread and cake baking. Its objective is to be held at the Bibliasiana fr., Fin. 12 and 13, at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia Complex, Pasay City on Aug. 25, Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The day-long seminar covers actual demos, food tasting and hands-on experience on how to make ensaimada bread, baguette, rye bread, pandesal, empanada, ramen, burger bun, hotdog bun, dinner roll, cinnamon roll, asado, ube roll, sponge cake, basic chiffon cake, red velvet bread, raisin bread, multigrain bread, for the garlic, cocoa de leche, blueberry crumble, oreo cheesecake and custard cake.

The other topics to be discussed are steaming of mixture, icings, and royal icing step by step guidelines on how to measure ingredients.

Participants will be be given a certificate of training right after the seminar. Lunch, snacks hand-outs and all the materials needed for demo and hands-on will also be provided. Re questions call 913-5051 / 421-2377 and 4787828 or visit website at www.GoldenBounties.ph.com or like us on Facebook.

LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty

Samsung Face-Off 2012 the biggest bridal collection this year

TOGETHER Vanessa Silverio-Ocampo and Randy Ortiz join Face-Off 2012.

BRITT Bala and Patrice Ramos-Diaz in Face-Off 2012

On Sept. 5 at Dusit, 38 designers will show how Filipino bridal design has evolved

By Carmencita S. Reyes
Contributor

THE BRIDAL industry has progressed in such a way that a wedding is not merely a ceremony; it's a showcase of lifestyle and taste," says fashion designer Mike dela Rosa.

With acclaimed fashion references and excellent wedding planners, designers, photographers, videographers and stylists, weddings are no longer just about the church ceremony and the reception.

"Weddings have become a big production," says Fashion Design Council of the Philippines (FDCP) president JC Buendia. "Gone are the cluttered designs of the past."

Samsung Face-Off 2012, to be staged by Imperial Lifestyle and UNIK Magazine on Sept. 5 at Dusit Thani Manila Hotel, will show just how dynamic, innovative and sophisticated the bridal designs are of Filipino fashion designers.

Thirty-eight designers will present their wedding gowns to what should be the biggest bridal show in the country this year.

The list of designers cuts across generations, and includes the top designers of Cebu.

But more than the quantity Face-Off will give the audience a good grasp of the competitive levels of the Filipino fashion designers whose wedding ensembles are showcased.

Also in Duset, in the ballroom foyer and lobby, Face-Off, with Champion in Style, will have a Filipino Heritage Bridal Exhibit featuring the famous wedding gowns created by eminent designers Dhoy Marasigan, Ben Farrales, Auggie Cordero, Rollie Mesa, Mike dela Rosa, Randy Ortiz, Rhett Eala, Philip Salcedo and Ivory Edit. Philip Salcedo designed the wedding gown worn by Miss Universe 2011 Leila Lopez.

As wedding venues have also evolved, from grand churches to picturesque resorts, designers have compensated by creating gowns that are less constricting and more practical.

For Ary Cervantes, brides must not only something they'll look good in, but also something they can easily wear during the reception and move around in for dancing afterward.

Randy Ortiz says, "Gone are the cluttered designs of the past. Our Filipino brides are of voluminous headpiece gowns."

SAMSUNG CO

LEILA TAN-GAN and Mike dela Rosa, who will also be in the Samsung Face-Off Filipino Heritage bridal exhibit presented by Champion Infinity

JOET JAYSON, Viv Barba and Ivanhoh Reyes

JC Buendia girds for milestone show—vows he won't end up in 'Ayyyteh'

By Alex Y Vergara

FASHION designer JC Buendia has no intention of reinventing the wheel as he unveils his 50-piece collection to mark his 25th year in the fashion industry.

But he knows a lot is at stake in his latest show. Ion he ends up in "Ayyyteh's" growing list of victims.

Simply dubbed "JC Buendia: 25th," the designer's first gala is on Aug. 27 at Manila's Hotel, Pasay City.

A big fan of such fashionistas as Audrey Hepburn, Jackie Kennedy, Grace Kelly, Wallis Simpson and even Diana Vreeland, Buendia draws inspiration from iconic movies and TV series set mostly in England, such as "Downton Abbey," "Garfield Park" and the Madeleine-directed "W.E."

"These period movies were set during the time of such legendary designers as Poiret, Schiaparelli and Chanel," he said. "At the same time, I'm also channeling influences from the '50s through such films as 'Roar Whiskey,' 'Funny Face,' 'Sabrina' and 'High Society.'"

Buendia has also set his sights on films and TV series of more recent vintage such as "The Last Emperor," "The Manchurian Candidate," "The Aviator," "Dave," "Memoirs of a Geisha" and "The Queen."

"These days, I'm also fascinated by such style icons as Gwyneth Paltrow, Sarah Jessica Parker and Princess Letizia of Spain," Buendia said.

"Sarah is the modern pale bride to woman who's beautiful even if her hair is not plain.) Gwyneth and Letizia are both stunning in gowns as well as in jeans. They don't look too much up all the time, which I like."

But drawing from so many stunning influences that have produced their fair share of iconic pieces over the decades has its share of pitfalls. And Buendia knows this too well in the age of "Ayyyteh."

Uncanny similar

"Ayyyteh," the latest poster bling to hit the blogosphere since "Chihuahua" and "bossy-bagger," poked fun at local fashion designers by showing images of original designs by the likes of Vivienne Westwood, Alexander McQueen, Gaultier, Givenchy and Issac alongside uncannily similar looks produced by homegrown talents.

"One of my strengths has always been tailoring," said the self-spoken Buendia, who's been working with his team for weeks in his Quezon City atelier even on Sundays. "I'm also very much absorbed with ladylike clothes inspired by Christian Dior's 'New Look.'"

He was brave enough to admit that one of his first impulses when starting this collection was to draw inspiration from the original works of Dior and his equally formidable contemporary Cristobal Balenciaga.

Buendia and Raf Simmons, Dior's new creative director, seemed to have channeled almost the same details and inspirations from the master's original body of work.

"I haven't started making the dresses yet, but I was shocked to find out that my sketches looked uncannily similar to the clothes Simmons recently showed on the runway," said an annoyed Buendia. "I don't want to end up in 'Ayyyteh.' So, it was back to the drawing board for me."

He has reasons to panic. Apart from the number of pieces he's supposed to show, Buendia has decided not to send out reworked dresses from past collections.

"I will use a lot of tulle, taffeta, silk gazar, French lace and silk chiffon," said Buendia, who once worked as assistant designer to "RTW King" Cesar Gaupo. "There will be no silk duchess pieces, and embellishments are limited to a hint of sequins and pearls piled near the neckline."

In keeping with the Dior spirit, most of his silhouettes are close to the body, with exclusive shoulders and cinched waists. It will be a play on both the feminine and the unexpected in the form of, say, multicolor necklines and flared skirts.

Playing with tulle

It would also be easy to see how Buendia plays with tulle, a fashion commodity used as inner layers by fashionistas to form full dresses.

For the first time in his career, he will use a great deal of silk abaca in blouses. The fabric, which Buendia sourced from Colombiano, has the feel of linen.

"Because of improvements in technology, silk abaca is not as prone to creasing as before. And it's not sticky."

Buendia will also dress up 15 male models, including five young male choirs to signature suits. The last of his five suitors will be dressed in gowns.

"Looking back on the history of ballet, I probably went back as far as the time of Englishman Charles Frederick Worth," he said. "I realized I've incorporated bustles and other details of the era. In keeping with the times, I've made the proportions smaller and more modern."

Among local designers, Buendia singled out Inno Sotto, Mike dela Rosa, Auggie Cordova, Cesar Gaupo, Greg Gomez (now a Benedictine monk based in Bukidnon) and the late Joe Salgado in his idols.

"I had a close-up view backstage of three masters' works," he said. "It was the most exciting time in Philippine fashion."

Doing RTW pieces is nothing new to Buendia. He once did Gaupo's ready-to-wear line for SM department stores, dubbed as "Divas." Lately, he realized where he wanted to take his career after collaborating with Kashieco's in-house designers to produce a capsule collection.

"I'm learning branding," he revealed. "I want to reinvent my own fashion items. Since I love to eat, why not introduce my own brand of chocolate? That would be part of my giveaways to female—JC's Earl Grey tea bar, chocolate with Earl Grey tea flavoring."

Down to his very English giveaways, Buendia has again proven himself contrary.

JC BUENDIA shares inspiration from his idols and mentors to produce updated versions of the "New Look."

Preparing his 25th anniversary show, the designer has iconic influences—but says he won't be a copycat

DRESS with unshoulder neckline and flared skirt harks back to images from movies in the '50s such as "Roar Whiskey," "Funny Face," "Sabrina" and "High Society."

THIS long dress with a fishtail silhouette is inspired by movies and TV series set in the time of designers Paul Poiret, Elsa Schiaparelli and Coco Chanel. They include "W.E.," "Downton Abbey" and "Garfield Park."

ORIENTAL inspirations from such movies as "My Geisha," "Memoirs of a Geisha" and "The Last Emperor" are evident in this cast dress with caramel buttons and high collar.

TWO-PIECE ensemble, consisting of silk abaca blouse and palazzo pants is inspired by movies and TV series such as "The Manchurian Candidate," "The Aviator," "Dave" and "The Queen."

MaARTe fair showcases top artisanal products

From furniture to jewelry, sourced from all over the country

JOEY de Castro pottery

SQUEEZE recycled-tin earrings with corals

NATW Industries Ming Ong

THE MUSEUM Foundation of the Philippines Inc., with Andrew Lanz, will present MaARTe 2012: Artisans Fair Aug. 24-26 at Power Plant Mall in Rockwell, Makati.

It's an exhibition-sale of major furniture arts and crafts.

It will gather, from all over the country, more than 40 jewelers, fashion and home accessory designers and culture entrepreneurs.

It's presented with Chem, the Department of Trade and Industry Shoemaker Boni, Security Bank SB Cards, Cobra Corp.

Conceived in the same spirit as Art in the Park, the Museum Foundation of the Philippines' annual affordable art fair, MaARTe aims to make artisanal Philippine products accessible to a wider public.

Since artisanal products are hand-crafted, they come in small quantities and are available only to a select appreciative few.

The range of products from all over—basket blankets from Bicol, inspired from abaca, nito and Tagbiz fibers; made fabrics of Tadeco; decorative items and trades from the Association of Negros Producers, Bicol and Mindanao.

Also featured are furniture and home accessories by A.11 studio of Eric Arcay and Bangalow 3000; pottery by Joey de Castro; decorative storage from Montevello; tableware by Zenmuseum; linens by Casa Kyla; tabletop decorations by Gospel Glass and Philippine Treasures.

There will be jewelry and fashion accessories by Tina Enriquez, Bajamas of Ilocos Concepcion, Natalyn Lagdameo, Ocampo Jewelry, Ann Ong, Trinity Ferrera, Jaypan Mabazo, Mon Abarado, Studio Indonesia, and Ming Ong of Kadsang Bisaya.

There will also be fun and whimsical hats and fascinators by Ate Montina, beautiful beaded bags by Vernie Flores, Filipiniana-inspired fashion by Cora Alandoleta and jewelry by Cukar Amadeo.

A special booth of MaARTe finds curated by members of the Museum Foundation of the Philippines will showcase works by sculptor Impy Pilapil, handpainted furniture by Jay Estrella and select pieces from E. Mabe. The National Artist Juan Nakpil Foundation will also be available.

Albert Avellana, director of Avellana Art Gallery, is curating the exhibition to give the shopper the experience of "living with art."

The Museum Foundation of the Philippines Inc., founded in 1986 as the Concerned Citizens of the National Museum, has evolved into a membership and volunteer organization, raising awareness for Philippine culture and the National Museum.

The foundation conducts culture study tours in the Philippines and the Islands in Museo programs of talks encouraging families and adult audiences to visit the museum on weekends.

An important advocacy is the support of Philippine creative industries, which is done by organizing two annual exhibitions: yearly organizing the popular Art in the Park (an art fair for affordable art) and MaARTe.

Heading the team of MaArte 2012 are Marissa Olivola and Amista Hufana. It is sponsored by BPI, Diamond Hotel, Vibal Publishing Inc., Via Mare, Sulpicio Pizza and Spirits, Milky Way Café and Cabalen.

For details, contact Mae de Leon or Elvie Magpayo of the Museum Foundation of the Philippines Inc., tel. 4017030; e-mail inquiry@museumfoundation.ph; or for more information.

[GROOM] Lorico, Jon Escobar, Pablo Cabahug, Eric de los Santos, Sass Jimenez, Paolo Ramoff, Kristel Yao and Chris Diaz

JACKIE Aquino and JC Buenaflor

Samsung Face-Off 2012 the biggest bridal collection this year

Frontpage C3

"Gowns from the past were more intricate and elaborate, as most materials and embroidery came from Europe rather than China, and embroideries were made by hand," says Hindy Tantoco. "If we made dresses today in that manner, the cost would be price prohibitive for most."

The availability of readymade embellished laces and fabrics also makes it easier for designers to finish a wedding gown in less time.

"This also leads us to the current trend of revealing and manipulating fabrics in lieu of traditional embellishments like embroidery and beadwork," notes Rinnie Arnaldo.

For Ortiz, modern gowns are all about figure-flattering silhouettes, modernistic long trains, fabulous semi-statement embroideries, textured patterns and subtle beadwork.

"Sexy, but is more," says Gregg Cosmos.

More experimental

As today's bride is more independent and decisive when it comes to choosing her gown (and husband-to-be), the contemporary Filipina bride is also more experimental with her gown's cut, color and detail. This, according to Jun Escasio, gives designers more opportunities to demonstrate their talent.

Kate Linsted says, "Brides now know what they want. Before, they were influenced by a lot of external factors, including the opinions of their mothers and grandmothers."

Other designers such as Eric de los Santos and Sass Jimenez note that introducing a hint of color into traditional designs is a trend in wedding gowns, which creates a more youthful look.

"Fashion is always evolving, but the bridal industry isn't as much as the merry ol' trends as the fashion industry is," says Hayden.

She adds, "I think we're all learned our lesson from the '80s, so each bride wants to look timeless on her wedding day."

Filipina brides also follow a wave set of parameters from the Catholic church, as balancing both rules is imperative," adds Linsted.

The growing wedding industry has not only provided designers financial gain, but also widened their artistic reins.

"This is where the bride and the designer share and express their romantic thoughts together in creating a gown, to have 'trumpets' the bride on the most important day of her life," notes Rodriguez.

Individualistic designs

Undoubtedly, the local bridal industry has a superior modern, which boasts healthy competition among bridal designers—keeping them on their toes and motivating them to produce better designs.

"This can also have a negative effect in the sense that sometimes it becomes a price war," says Patrick Santos-Ortiz. "I hope that despite this situation, the design industry can maintain a high level of design aesthetic and craftsmanship."

Bridal designers are also readily available online, which makes it easier for designers to "conceptualize a theme for brides, but at the same time, makes it less of an imaginative challenge for the designer," says Ocampo.

Angge Cordero notes, "Though they're very visual, brides today don't know the intricacies of creating a wedding gown, such as the kind of materials [and] their value, that should be used for the gown and that would fit their budget."

Also, with the opening of ETW bridal stores, some brides would rather buy off-the-rack pieces abroad made by popular foreign designers—perhaps, to save them time from doing things.

"I think it's a pity because they end up losing out on the personal touch only a custom wedding gown could give," says Tantoco.

At the end of the day, as Mr Starke and Cordero note, creating a dress that would reflect the personality of the bride is still paramount.

Cordero's advice to brides: Be honest about your budget, what you want, and who decides on the gown's design. You have to be realistic and specific.

Other participating designers are Loreta Dupuco, Jeanbaki Ancheta, Lala Tan-Gan, Renata Lardizo, Tanichi Steven, Rhea Domingo, Yvonne Quisumbing, James Reyes, Joey Samson, Cary Santiago, Jerome Salapa Any, Harold Bautista, Pablo Cabahug, Noel Ursusmoro, Chris Diaz, Joel Escobar, Vesjay Flotsera, Antoine Lorico, Stacia Ramoff and Kristel Yao.

Jackie Aquino will direct the show.

THE MIND MUSEUM ADVISORY

On August 18 (Sat), the 3pm to 6pm time slot is SOLD OUT.

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• 6pm to 9pm*

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SUMOSAN LEGACY. S/F, THE PODIUM

Few family moments are as magical as dining well with your significant other while also watching the kids eat with this much enthusiasm. At **The Podium**, parents are always grateful that child-friendly menus here are more than just an afterthought.

HEALTHY SHABU-SHABU
2/F, THE PODIUM

Marc and Lorelei ordered the **Seafood Platter**. Even the twins took over, intently listening to the advice from the waiter. Gabrielle and Noelle cooked, built up the broth base, and served up a meal they proudly told their classmates about the next day.

SHI LIN 2/F, THE PODIUM

There are those that make it their personal culinary quest to check the best soup dumplings in town for (a majority of them is the pursuit of the perfect **Xian Long Bao** xiao lan). The plump yet delicately steamed dough is further refined by a cream of ginger and olive subtle flavors in the soup.

FLORABEL G/F, THE PODIUM

Topped with foie gras and served with mashed potatoes, green asparagus, and mushroom kek cocoa, the **Baked Tea Bun** was initially a hard sell, until the kids gingerly took their first bite. After that, they were so cold they asked Mom if she knew the recipe.

CCA DUBARRY SCHOOL MARKET CAFE
G/F, THE PODIUM

With decorated local and international chefs in their faculty, it's no wonder that the Center of Culinary Arts, Manila runs a café that can conjure up **Baked Strawberry Cheesecake** that tastes this terrific—smooth, very creamy cheesecake expertly baked and generously topped with strawberry filling.

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Morning Photo—Manila Boardwalk by Jay Montalban

FRAME OF MIND Exhibit at The Podium

A Glimpse Into the Country's Premier Coastal Leisure Destination

If the old adage that "a picture is worth a thousand words" should ever require proof to demonstrate its veracity, then a brief visit to the exhibit should put your doubts at ease.

Conde del Hamilo Inc. (an SM land company) in partnership with the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the Camera Club of the Philippines and the SM Media Group hosted a running photographic exhibit, which was launched at The Podium. The public exhibition showcased the natural treasures and modern attractions of the country's top coastal leisure destinations—Puerto de Luna Cove at Hamilo Coast.

The exhibit was opened by Elizabeth Sy, President of Conde del Hamilo Corporation; Atty. Manolo Rivera, President of Camera Club of The Philippines and Christian Mathay, Regional Operations Manager of The Podium. The fair of Hamilo Coast's thirteen coves, Puerto de Luna Cove, particularly the Playa de Luna Beach and Country Club and its mid-rise residential structures set against a beautiful natural landscape became a focal point for the photographers.

The Frame of Mind Photography Exhibit began last July 11 at The Podium with opening contests hosted by Anyo. Next stop was on the SM Mall of Asia last August 2 and will culminate at "the Block, SM North Edsa on August 16 to 31.

Frame of Mind is an initiative of Conde del Hamilo, Inc. in partnership with The Cultural Center of the Philippines, The Camera Club of the Philippines, The Podium, SM Mall of Asia and The Block of SM North of Edsa. For inquiries please call 838-3333 or visit www.hamiloresort.com.

Lucerna Orozco's Emerson Tan, MEGA Magazine editor-in-chief Siet Tiu, Singapore Airlines' Rita Ng, and Mr. Emerson's wife Lingling Tan

(L-R) Vice Mayor Group Inc.'s assistant vice president Arlene Carreon and key account manager Dante Saludo; Inglet's wife Pamela Canal's assistant vice president Kara Cajucom (middle)

(L-R) President of the Camera Club of the Philippines Atty. Manolo Rivera, Cultural Center of the Philippines' former president Nestor Nardis, former senior vice president of Manotoc Bobby Pascua, and president of Informatics Ian Ringpis

(L-R) Department of Tourism undersecretary Ma. Isenja Aquil Nativo Ibobin (Magazine's editor-in-chief Raul Manzano

LIFESTYLE

Editor Thelma Simon San Juan

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Teens speak: We find hope outside our comfort zone

'When I gave the donations, I felt like I finally had done some good in my life'—Joshua Milner, 14

By Angelica Y. Yang
Student correspondent,
Immaculate Conception Academy

MANY TEENS I know whose homes and communities were affected by rising floods were out of their own comfort zones to help rescue people.

Here are some of their stories—their prayers, the indomitable Filipino spirit, the act of doing something without asking for anything in return.

It is these insights into humanity that truly edify us as Filipinos and invite us to action now.

Last Aug. 7, my roommates and I were watching the news on TV, and we saw Filipinos helping fellow Filipinos. We were joking around about how Filipinos only help their fellowmen in times like these, and then someone suddenly said, *ito lang nga ako tumatulong, kaya siguro ako lang.*

"The next day, I decided to donate some of my clothes and food to the rescues relief operations. I wasn't planning on volunteering because it's such a hassle and it was still raining hard, but when I got there, I saw Filipinos helping fellow Filipinos. The whole covered court was filled with people trying to help, a Dan Dinction song was playing on the speakers, and people were enjoying

YSABEL: Chua and the canned goods she helped pack

ICAN volunteers help make sandwiches for the flood victims.

STUDENTS from San Beda Alabang organizing relief goods.

Teens speak: We find hope outside our comfort zone

From page B1

Operation. I was moved and joined them immediately.

"We formed two lines so we passed around the water of bottled water to the others until they had enough. Although it didn't take anyone there and have very easy arm right arm, I felt good that I was able to help, even if it's not that much. It was fulfilling and definitely worth my time and effort."

—**Pa-Gera Hivas, 15, Immaculate Mankin University**

"When various news reports indicated use of love for incessant downpour of the monsoon devastated the flood-prone areas and took over the lives of Filipinos, I knew what I had to do. Since our school was encouraging volunteerism to help in the relief operations, I decided to participate to fulfill my responsibilities as a Filipino.

"That reminder helping out one another in times like these, and seeing what I can do for my country. I helped very loads of donation boxes and baskets of supplies to the relief operations center. I just hope that these small acts would help make a difference to those I indirectly helped out...and I hope that we would not ask ourselves what our country could do for us; rather, we should ask ourselves what we could do for our country."

—**Nino Hivis, 15, La Salle Greenhills**

"It was Aug. 6. It was yesterday that day, and I was watching the news and saw how much people were affected by the catastrophe. I was

with my mother, and she wanted to help, but she couldn't because she had a business meeting. I decided that I should go and give the donations, but she didn't want me to go as I had sprained my ankles and wasn't able to walk properly, but I insisted.

"I went to one of the donation sites, La Salle Greenhills. I came out and people were just packing in me, wondering why I still came in such a state. When I gave the donations, I felt like I finally had done some good in my life. I would've volunteered, but I couldn't because of my condition. I advise others to at least donate something to help the people affected, and who have lost their homes."

—**Joshua Gilbert, 16, La Salle Greenhills**

"There wasn't much thinking in my mind, but the memories of the looks of utter flooded hearts. It all started when I was reading the headline: On Twitter, a lot of people were moaning about praising for the country and helping it. My first reaction was that we should start doing something instead of moaning about it. Soon, San Beda Manila and Alabang launched the project, 'Chance Call,' a potential request for relief.

"I wasn't able to attend the first two days, but even after I was allowed to participate in one. Waking up Friday morning, I watched through all my stuff and managed to get a decent amount of clothes and toys. Then I went to my school to bring my donations. There were a lot of Bedans who came, and a lot of donations as well.

"We all started segregating the donations of toys, clothes, food and more. Eventually, it was time by us to take a break and I was quite overcome with happiness because

they were able to help our brothers and sisters who were in need. It was a really good feeling for all of us, and it signified how teamwork and unity from the time of calls, which mean that we are one community and one family."

—**Cyd Lanzol, 15, San Beda Alabang**

"When I arrived at the site, the water was already knee-deep. There was a point where the flood reached chest level! We were stranded in our own village. We were fortunate to still have electricity and food. Now, fearing our supplies would not last the week, my parents took it upon themselves to look for possible entry and exit routes so that not only our family but also the other families in the village could go out and obtain basic commodities.

"My parents were able to find an exit route, a barangay compound beside our village. After much negotiating, the village officials allowed us to use that route, and it sure helped us. They say it's more fun in the Philippines—and I definitely agree, because no matter how happy or depressing the situation is, we all still get around helping each other like a big family. Absolutely!"

—**Simeon Bayudan, 15, La Salle Greenhills**

"In the news got stronger, the water in our village kept rising. There was a point where the flood reached chest level! We were stranded in our own village. We were fortunate to still have electricity and food. Now, fearing our supplies would not last the week, my parents took it upon themselves to look for possible entry and exit routes so that not only our family but also the other families in the village could go out and obtain basic commodities.

"My parents were able to find an exit route, a barangay compound beside our village. After much negotiating, the village officials allowed us to use that route, and it sure helped us. They say it's more fun in the Philippines—and I definitely agree, because no matter how happy or depressing the situation is, we all still get around helping each other like a big family. Absolutely!"

—**Simeon Bayudan, 15, La Salle Greenhills**

"The typhoon in a dormitory along San Sebastian St. in Manila. Luckily, our dorm is in a high place. The surrounding streets, like Recto and Legarda, were all flooded, ranging from knee-high to hip level. I have a dormmate in the dormitory. She didn't eat for two days since the mall her roommates didn't have food stocked or kept safe. She was always give us lots of meals, biscuits, fruits. I also have a rice cooker with me.

"I went down to her room and gave her some of my food. The next morning, I noticed her that she could go up to our breakfast with us. I have friends also staying in the surrounding flooded streets and with no electricity. Their phones were almost out of batteries, and they didn't have their flashlights charged. They contacted me

so that they could charge their phones and flashlight.

"I feel so happy because I had the chance to help. I called that set and checked on Twitter. Bedans tweeted about Alaska Cell 2012. I thought about how I could help people in my own way, also sis."

—**Marise Mercur, 17, San Beda**

"It's a really good experience to help out in relief operations within our community. My friends and I were able to help out at Ateneo School. Area in first day of relief ops, and it was fun to see how everyone reacted from that school readily helped out. The teamwork shown by the youth today really makes me proud of my generation and of the Filipinos. As they say, 'The Filipino spirit is unexpected,' and I think from what I've seen and experienced, there just how true really showed off the big hearts of the Filipino."

—**Cayen Wong, 15, Immaculate Conception Academy**

"I was in one of how students found ways to reach out to Bedans after need of help. Organizations and student councils, whether in our school or in other areas as or elsewhere, would all seem look out for each other in times like these...not to improve other people, but to give service wholeheartedly even to those we barely know.

"With this small act of courage, they were able to gather 958 bags of relief goods with over 200 people in a day. Some 800 families were saved from hunger, thanks to students who had the courage to step up and share their blessings to help the less fortunate."

—**Kara Santiago, 16, Immaculate Conception Academy**

"The unexpected calamities also been a unifying force for people to come together and help in whatever way they can...something I truly saw in Kiko and person older than just week. When the monsoon rains struck Manila last Monday, the senior batch of 12A immediately responded and started drafting plans for possible relief operations.

"Being the president of the 3Cs Student Council, I immediately coordinated with other student leaders to try to organize relief operations in our school. However, we were saddened to hear that most of our teachers and maintenance staff were also greatly affected by the flood, thus making it impossible to open up the school to relief operations.

"Strong will strong desire to help, yet still we cannot to see it take fruitening. But truly determined to help, we decided to contact the parent auxiliary to see how such a thing could still be possible. After canvassing of numerous phone calls, a parent representative and I were able to set up a makeshift relief operation in the North Greenhills Clubhouse by Wednesday afternoon.

"The operation seemed can really small, only only around 15 volunteers. By the end of the afternoon, word started going around about our operations, and the donations from North Greenhills residents and DLSU families started pouring in.

"The relief operations lasted until Friday of that week. We were able to distribute different goods to the evacuees of our adopted communities and other evacuees at the San Juan City Gym, Mt. Carmel Parish Church and in Marikina. I went to Mt. Carmel to see the situation of the evacuees. What struck me most, though, was that many of them have been able to eat very well the past few days, thanks to the generosity of many Filipinos.

"By the end of the week, we had more food and clothing donations...more than we ever expected. So many student, parents and teacher volunteered took the initiative to help in the relief operations. It was really heartwarming to see all these people, who barely knew each other but on this week, came together for one common good cause. I came to realize that while we are a Third World country, we truly do have first-class hearts."

—**Yushel Chua, 17, Immaculate Conception Academy**

"We, the student volunteers of Ateneo, did not know that we would be part in the Disaster Response and Management Effort[illegible] from in the wake of the monsoon rains. Within an hour, all three groups—the community service center from the Health Science Program, the student council and the Office of Student Organization (OSA), the Ateneo Student Graduate Association (ASGA), and the in-town orgs from BOU were ready and set up.

"The communication center pointedly called Ateneo whose families were reported trapped in their homes, checked on their safety to see whether they needed rescue. We called local government units, Red Cross, DSWD, and other rescue units to assist our evacuees. The corps turned the rescues and helped in the distribution of relief goods to various communities in Metro Manila. Minutes after the Sanggunian, OSA and Arts called for volunteers through Facebook and Twitter, we did not hesitate to come to school and assist in receiving donated goods.

"Around a thousand of us came over day by the 22-hour relief operations. The Ateneo spirit of magis ("more") was seen in practice on campus.

—**Jason Hua, 18, Ateneo Blue[illegible] Team, Atenean Manila University**

ATHLETES from San Beda Alabang

DE LA Salle Zobel cheerleading squad in action

WNCAA Opening 2012:
A different kind of girl power

By Luis Carlo Sarjoue

WHENEVER SAID that women's sports are not as exciting as the men's?

The Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA) opened its 43rd season last Sat., Aug. 4 at the Philsports Arena with the theme "Making a difference in women's sports," and with De La Salle Zobel as host school.

The WNCAA has always been considered as the premiere league for women's collegiate sports. It is the only women's league with a trifecta sports division—rudgets, high school, college. Separate events each in volleyball, basketball and cheerleading to be the crowd-drawers yet again.

This year also welcomes the league's newest member school, Assumption College Makati.

The WNCAA is also the only women's league which real owner member schools from different regions in the country.

Considered the most prestigious women's collegiate league in the country, it marked its 43rd year without a hitch

ALL SMILES. The basketball team of St. Paul College Pasig

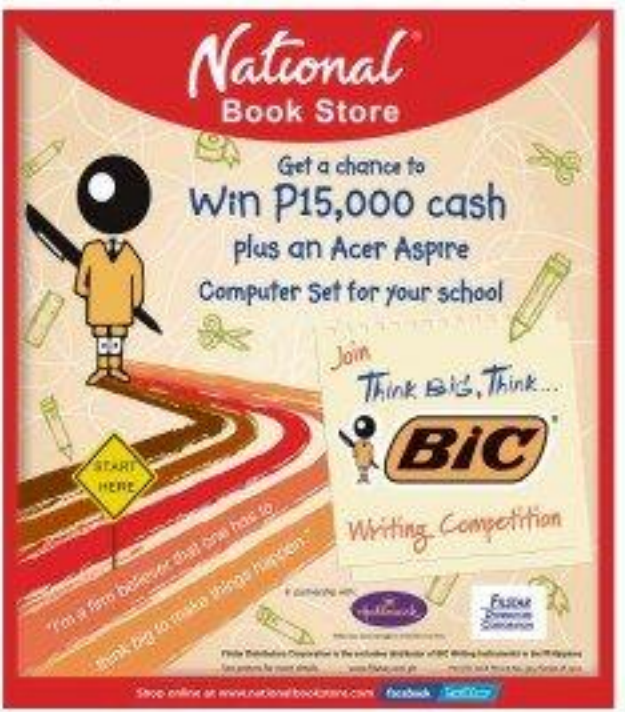
THE COLLEGE basketball team of the University of Asia and the Pacific

PLAYERS from the Philippine Women's University

ST. JUDE athletes

FROM CC Scholastica's College

PLAYERS from Perpetual College



Savoring life

Listen to your heart, but use your brain, too! Discover your passion, and it will lead you to the best profession you should pursue

By Francesca Heindang
Student correspondent,
Makati Medical Center College of Nursing

IT TOOK me a while to gather old prayers, letters and sayings to pin to my corkboard. As I sensed old treasures one by one, I find myself wheeled back to the fond memories of my childhood.

As a 19-year-old about to step into the world of adults, I cannot help but ponder how my life has been, and how it will be years from now.

In a world constantly giving us maps on how to navigate through life, is it still possible for young people to break the status quo and live, as the French say, like "C'est la vie?"

I still remember it like it was yesterday. That first day of school was my mother's worst nightmare, because despite attempts to prepare me, I cried, wailed and shouted like a banshee. My world back then revolved only around playing, eating and sleeping. School was an alien concept that disturbed my peaceful childhood.

But this alien concept soon became a comforting routine. I actually started to like it, until all the things I rarely ate accompanied with it—the scent of candy-flavored erasers, new books and crayons. I especially liked blank sheets of new notebooks. They looked so clean and inviting. I could draw anything on that blank sheet and color the apples blue if I so desired. Ah, life was good.

Grade school was just around the corner waiting to be tackled. Life still was simple. Girls were meant to be your friends and the boys were the natural foes. Boys were "yuckies" running around with sweat and saliva dripping down their faces. Escaping our recess playing tignoys, dodgeball, Chinese garter, piko and patintero in the play area while waiting for our school bears to arrive. Yes, life was still simple and uncomplicated. Then high school happened.

They say it's the best time of anybody's life. High school can mean you any way it wants, but the outcome depends on how you handle each horror tossed. Big, fat and meany guidance-bound boys transform into hot and handsome high school dudes, as if three months of summer did miracles to the former "pueblum." Couples slowly sprouted like mushrooms, and disappeared as quickly as they appeared. If there is one word to describe high school, it would be what you hear in almost all TV shows. It's true. DRAMA. "We're not in high school anymore. Don't be unruly, dramatic." Your life is starting to have a life of its own.

From that of a simple playful child to that of a hormone-crazed teenager, life now starts to get a bit complicated. Until days begin to happen (you know what I'm talking about, girls), pimples start to pop up everywhere like Bida mainstream stars all to our faces, hangouts moved to more late-night drinking and smoking sessions, and worries now meant confused minds, lost trees and broken hearts.

Got something to share? E-mail us at [illegible]@gmail.com

Blank sheet

College came running fast, as it beat the yellow light just in time for you to cross the overly crowded street. Expectations now start for each individual as our teenage years begin to slowly slip away. We are faced with a blank sheet once more. Inside, wondering what it is that would transform it into a beautiful, picturesque painting. As I held mine down years ago, I couldn't help but ask, why did I want to become a nurse? Did I really want to become a nurse? What do nurses anyway?

My new one-third filled journal consists of patients, who, despite all the aches, gave me the joy I now treasure. A student nurse's life may be filled with countless paperwork and tiresome shifts, but it does make you wonder how each student successfully manages to remain joyful despite it all. So were Ella, I tell myself.

I will never forget one patient who was in a coma. It was hard to take care of her, but I never gave up. Instinct told me I should do more. I read her Bible verses and I even sang her a song one time.

Then one rainy day, my clinical instructor came to check up on her, and as she checked my patient's vitals, it changed so fast right? My patient was getting better! Oh, how beautiful that moment was. Ever since that day I knew being a nurse is what I enjoy doing.

Life's choices are infinite and endless. We all wonder how life proceeds from here. Will life deal us beautiful cards, or will it hand us the most difficult?

In my 19 years, I have learned a lot of things.

I have learned that looking at your classmate's exam paper is cheating. Passing your hand in class (even when you don't know the answer) while everyone's hands are up is reason you look smart. I know that hot female name and age. The difference between having clinical and having none is a single hello. Try to motivate yourself in class or an office because even if you don't win, years later, you'll have something to laugh about. Take every opportunity to do school, from cooking, writing, singing and dancing to athletics and declamation.

Do not judge

Do not pick your nose during a school parade because you will forever be haunted by that memory, and you don't want that. Do not judge a dirty fat boy in grade school by his looks, because high school will come to a few years and you will be surprised. Keep in touch with friends who live across away. Listen to your heart, but use your brain, too! Discover your passion, and it will lead you to the best profession you should pursue.

Dare to step out of your comfort zone by doing things you are not yet comfortable doing. Dream big and aim high! Play and be spontaneous! Smile, sing, dance, leap, run, shout and laugh. Live every day as if it were your last, savor every moment. Do one wish to be an adult but, because it will come, and when it does, you'll wish you were young once more. Learn how to say no to peer pressure. Let your family values be your compass.

Life can easily become superficial at times. But do remember, there are more important things in life than fashion, gadgets and popularity. Family and true friends matter most. Never each one that you have with your family, because they are the only ones you have. In the end, they will be all you have.

Lastly, I know having a relationship with God will be "so not cool" when everything is going great. But trust me when I say, it is the most important relationship because He is the only one who can lift you out of the dark. Friends may leave and family will always be there for you, but God is yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Life deals us all a different hand and for most of us, it's difficult. Whatever hands life might drop on us, it's always comforting to know that someone up there has the best plan for us, and trusts us more than anyone ever could.

Let me leave you with a verse that has gotten me through the strongest of storms. I pray it will do the same for you. "You can do all things through Jesus Christ who gives you strength." (Philippians 4:13)

LIFESTYLE

Time to celebrate

How Swatch brings smiles and inspiration to the school community–a spirit captured in a new design

By Paul Albert Palmero
Contributor

TO SET UP an educational institution and make a name for itself by producing only the best and the brightest is something, that to keep making a country and a decade later despite the obstacles is another story.

San Beda accomplishes it in countless and ever values of One et Indivis (peace and truth) and relies for community life, which have been handed down from generation to generation. Combine this with the dynamism to keep up with modern times, and you have something Benedictine has successfully captured in a limited-edition design.

Time to recognize success

For San Beda, which proudly heralds its history of sports excellence, change produced before and [illegible]—and got even better.

In May, at the 2nd Philippine National Games Cheerleading Competition, the alleged San Beda Alabang in Red Lions cheerleading squad placed third in the open coed cheer category against college-coed teams, and now gives the diehard fanatic of competing in next year's Cheerleading Asia International Open Championships in Japan. This positions the squad as a major game-changer on its level.

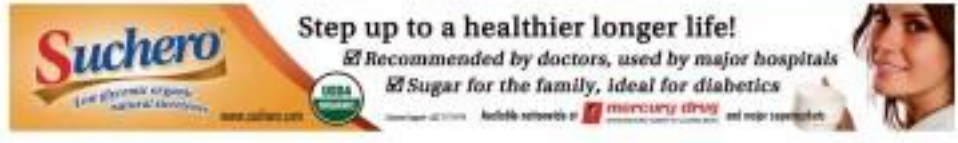
Team captain Kristine Joyce Go attributes this success to setting each successes. "I believe time should not be wasted. If you want to achieve everything you want."

Her teammate Anna Fernandez shares the sentiment of hard work. "An effective way to honor your Alma Mater is to bring home the gold. What better way to celebrate than to win?" she says.

Arlyn Reniel Sina, who belongs to the male high school pep squad who went to the competition to support the female team, relishes the victory as a call to train to strive for the best even more. "Keep striving for work; you first only once."

In the 88th NCAA Season, more victories are made, this time in basketball. The decorated Red Lions, one year removed from another, not always top for the win, have turned to three of the team's parable stars. There's the A-B-S set de la Cruz, whose inclusion in the celebrated "Super Six," despite the odds, helped lead the team to victory in this season's hunt for opponent against a full line-up. Finally, Arellano University. And who could forget point guard Henri Asher's spectacular three-pointer that buzzer-beater with 10

PATRICIA Bocampito and Julie Krista Que proudly wear their San Beda Swatch watches



SAN BEDA Alabang junior cheerleading squad: Daniela Perez, Anna Inumerable (standing) Patricia Bersamin, Chloe Lacsamana, Kristin Go, Ariella Goco, Kassandra Cuspin

JOHN Kristof Sia of the San Beda Alabang prep squad

Time to celebrate

From page E1

records left in the game versus University of Perpetual Help Rizal.

These affirmed the Bedan spirit's edge in the quest for success.

Then finally, there's Carmelo Lim, one of collegiate sport's few visionaries who believe in perseverance. "Time is everything in sports—game time, practice time—the time you put in for extra work and the time you sacrifice for the betterment of your country," he says.

More success stories abound...and we're just halfway through the season.

Golden moment

San Beda and San Beda Alabang welcome their 111th and 10th birthdays, respectively. San Beda, with its core values, embraces the future by growing along with it.

Sounds euphoric and celebratory this spirit. Every school community member can easily dig on his worst the San Beda sounds.

"It's creatively cool—and very considerable to some," Lim says. "It reflects the personality of Bedans as it radiates that Red Lion Pride," Go adds.

Bedans believe that each and every one plays a vital role, no matter how small, because of San Beda's belief in camaraderie and family. That is why with the help of Branch, the San Beda Alumni Association of Manila, and San Beda Alabang high school batch '97, proceeds of San Beda Sunsilk sales will go to the San Beda Alabang High School Jr. Cheerleading Squad, as they prepare to compete in the all-female Cheerleading Asia International Open Championships (TASIC) in Tokyo, Japan, in May 2013.

LIMITED-EDITION San Beda Swatch and commemorative packaging

KEEPING the Bedan spirit alive: Red Lions Art de la Cruz, Carmelo Lim and Baser Amer

We dedicate this article to the loving memory of a staunch San Beda supporter and alumnus, Mr. Jose Lim.

The San Beda Sunsilk is available at the San Beda Alumni Association office in Mendiola, Manila. E-mail sanbedaalumni2@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page San Beda Sunsilk.

Dye hard: Bow-tie with a vengeance

Learn to make your own bow tie, and even give it a creative spin

By Jenica Villanueva,
Student correspondent, Ateneo Blue

A BOW TIE is used to hold the opening of a man's shirt. These days, it is mostly used as a tool of fashion and fashion by guys and fashion-forward girls.

This will teach you how to make yours even have the ribbon dried-ding too much cash.

You'll need

3/8" x 6" piece of fabric
4" x 2" piece of fabric
1" safety pin
Fabric glue or glue gun (Blue highlights show where glue is supposed to be placed)

1. Three 3/8" x 6" and 4" x 2" fabrics are from my old white shorts, no need to buy new fabrics. Be resourceful.

2. Lay the fabric and flip a halfway. Put glue horizontally on both tops. Since the fabric glue that I used is white, Sew No More (you can find it in hardware shops), I used a blue highlighter so you can see clearly where glue is supposed to be placed.

3. Press both tips together until bonded. Don't worry too much about the fabric runs, you can see the glue to stop them.

4. Horizontally fold the fabric halfway and put glue on both sides.

5. Press both tips together until bonded. Photo No. 5 photo shows how the back looks like.

6. On the front, put glue on the center and press it until closed. (Blue highlights show where glue is supposed to be placed.)

7. Turn it around again and drop glue on top and bottom, on the pinched section.

8. Photo No. 8 shows where the glue was placed and pinch it closed.

9. Place the smaller piece of fabric at the center and put glue. (In step No. 2 you the smaller fabric, too.

10. Wrap the entire strip at the center of the tie and glue it closed. Since we're going for the very basic way, insert the safety pin, and your bow tie is ready!

You can stop at step 10 if you want, but since my bow tie is pure white, I felt the need plus it up a bit more and let dye get in the way. Let's proceed to step 11 if you want to dye your bow tie, too!

You'll need

Dye
Container
Warm water
Rubber bands

Put warm water in a container and dissolve the dye in it. If you're not familiar with dyeing, how-to-use can be found in the dye packet, the Internet or, but worst, from your friend.

11. Make sure the rubber bands are hugging the fabric as tight as possible. Dip the fabric in the dye for 20 seconds. Immediately release the fabric from the rubber bands and rinse with water until the water is almost colorless. Hang to dry and your tie dyed bow tie is ready.

12. Dip the bow tie halfway for 60 seconds. Rinse with water until the water is almost colorless. Hang to dry and your Ombre bow tie is ready.

You can also just mix the bow to right above the button hole of your polo, and you're good to go. Now you can save your bow tie money for something else, because you've learned to make your own today. I hope you enjoyed making your personalized and original bow ties as much as I did. Always be imaginative and resourceful. Why buy when you can DIY?

EXPERIMENT with different bow-tie styles

Out-studding

Let the rebel in you shine through, as studs make a gleaming comeback

She's dangerous

STUDDING a bit the top: this modern studded collar shirt, P4,990, Zara; blue studded shorts, P1,695, River Island Dubai Mall, P490, Pulled & Stone; gold necklace, P595, mall, P549, Urban Outfitters

Rebeldom

PULL it off by layering more or pieces for a look that doesn't have to mix notes. Orange tank top, P649, pullover, grey necklace, P1,095, TRF at Zara stars, P999, jellybean studded cuff, Forever 21; crystal boots, P2,795, Charles and Keith

Punk goes glam

PULL OFF the glam rock vibe with a studded dress (mine shown with gel spring jacket and boots, denim shorts, P1,695, Miss Selfridge; emerald green pumps, P1,990, Zara; studded bracelet, P595, Forever 21; beaded studded boots, P2,195, Zara Spring)

Caution ahead

STYLIZE your getup with studs in different shapes and sizes. White studded mullet top, P1,595, Miss Selfridge; grey long skirt, P995, Jollybean; studded denim jacket, TRF at Zara; black studded bag, P1,995, Pramod; gold studded Obskuria heels, P5,695, Steve Madden; bangles, Aldo Accessories

Metal chronicles

YOU'RE in for a studded treat: this modernly studded jacket is an attention-grabber. Black and white striped top, P4,650, and denim shorts, P1,695, both from Michael Kors; red studded purse, P4,990, Zara; silver necklace, P685, Forever 21; black and gold studded clutch, P1,190, Forever 21

Shop directory

ALDO ACCESSORIES, G/F Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Call It Spring, 3/F Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati; Charles & Keith, 2/F, Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Ever Bilena, Bonifacio High Street Central, Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

Folded & Hung, 3/F Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Ortigas Center, Pasig

Forever 21, 2/F Bldg. A, SM Megamall Ortigas Center, Pasig

Jollybean, 3/F Bldg. B, SM Megamall, Ortigas Center, Pasig

Michael Kors, G/F, Glorietta 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Miss Selfridge, G/F, Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati City

Perfects, G/F Glorietta 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Pramod, G/F, Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Steve Madden, G/F, Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati

Zara, G/F, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati

STYLE UPDATE FROM FOREVER 21

A pop of color against a mix of neutrals makes a fun cool fall statement.

Glam up the boho look with printed pants, cut-out shorts and sexy luxury tops.

Fast and stylish women are taking the city by storm at Forever 21!

Urban sophisticate pieces that playfully mix the soft and the edgy take the lead. Classic animal prints, neutrals, chiffon, and cropped, loose, easy pieces get an updated look worn with modern blazers, skinnies and pencil skirts.

Hear 'ooohs' calling with a look that beautifully rocks British cool and preppy. It's Cool Britannia all the way with blazers, skinnies, shirt dresses, and pants in prints, houndstooth patterns, coal a lot of plaid.

Floors rage, chameleons, shorts, tribal prints and flo-rock still make the A-list of the forever looks set. A richer color palette with a dose of yellow brings the coastline in during rainy days.

Manila's fashion set will also get more shopping fun and exclusive privileges at Forever 21 when they shop using Forever 21's most essential accessory, the Forever 21 Master Card. Apply for the card by visiting the Forever 21 store as well as SM's branches. The application form can also be downloaded at www.sm.com.ph. Plus, non-stop sales and money fashion opportunities like they shop with their friends with Forever 21 Gift Cards in P1,000 and P2,000 denominations. These Gift Cards are also perfect to give away to your shopping buddies on any occasion.

Forever 21 fans can also click on Forever 21's new website www.forever21.ph.com to check out what's trending in the world of Forever 21 or follow Forever 21 on www.facebook.com/forever21.ph and www.twitter.com/forever21ph.

Enjoy the latest fashion trends on the greatest value at Forever 21 stores located at the Second Level of SM Megamall A, Ground Floor of SM Makati in the Central Business District, the 2nd level of The Block at SM City North EDSA, the 2nd level of SM Mall of Asia, the Northwing of SM City Cebu, and soon at SM City Iloilo.

Two spirited tribal prints, plus embroidery and a touch of yellow capture the modern boho spirit.

Walk the urban jungle in classic tribal and animal print tees to modern feminine silhouettes.

The long and short of elegant party dressing.

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ck Calvin Klein

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Botox and fillers**–how they can, in fact, age you /F4

■ **What Anna Wintour, Bernard Arnault,** other style icons have in common–other than fashion /G1

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A TOAST to the new PAL: pegroup host Piotr Grendzijko, PAL top honcho Ramon S. Ang, Boeing sales director for Asia Pacific Daniel Schuil, PAL director Michael S. Tan

Rik Domingo, Joanne Rae Ramirez, Yvonne Fernandez, Cindy Villalon

PAL flight attendants with Tourism Secretary Ramon R. Jimenez Jr. and Ramon S. Ang

PAL adviser Annabelle Tan-Go (Mercy), Galindez, PAL manager for product loyalty marketing operations Milton Mike Jacoy Dorian

PAL president and COO Ramon S. Ang

DOT Secretary Ramon R. Jimenez Jr. to Edgar Zobel, AirPhil Express president

PAL officer Gil Javier and HSBC's Anaya Natipholi-Cajucom

ANG with GEORGE and Cristina Yang

PAL unveils new dream destinations, choice innovations

PHILIPPINE AIRLINES (PAL) unveiled major customer-oriented innovations to highlight the synergy between the national flag carrier and San Miguel Corp. (SMC), which

HABUHAP Mike Milton Hilott, Jack Kitchie, Dr. Vicki Belo, Marlene Tan

PAL-GIC for Commercial Group Rafael Rolfus, Milton Mike Robert Pickett, PAL director Washington Sycip

PAL marker Cindi Gilb King, Mercedes Miramonti, Fernando Arevalo, Tomasa Penaflor, Eric Chong Yan

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH
Maurice Arnaldo
Photo by Alex Van Hagen
powered by **nikon MADE easier**

purchased two long-haul flights. Also inaugurated were seven flight destinations to five top-rated guest cities. Book & Buy widening kiosks to be installed at selected Metro Gaisano stores, and Apple iPads for onboard entertainment in trans-Pacific flights, as well.

"In the months ahead, three more modern Boeing 777-300ER aircraft will be delivered to PAL," said Ric Domingo. PAL assistant vice president for product loyalty marketing. "The core loyal passengers are sufficient reason new and exciting destinations."

"In the next future, PAL will fly nonstop to Toronto, Paris and New York," she added.

Guests included Tourism Secretary Ramon R. Jimenez Jr. and Malolos Mayor Danilo Domingo. The media partook dog into the succulent dishes from PAL "master chefs" such as Billy King, Fernando Aroseana, Eric Chong Yan, Marichu Monasterio and Rhon Santamaria Penaflor.

The evening's night was capped by famed pyrotechnist Paolo Gaston Rodrigo Gazmin welcomed an enthralling light-and-shadow performance by 32 dancers in costumes, showcasing PAL's in-flight services and future dream destinations. The String Manuela Orchestra rendered the romantic "Love at 30,000 Feet."

The presentation was directed by Jaclyn Aquino of CNN Productions and supervised by Nancy Yang of NY Entourage Productions.

The music was especially edited by Robert Hunsteller, her husband.

A third such look often when guests find the new Book & Buy kiosk. Guests filled up their choice destinations and PAL later raffled off 22 awesome business class, domestic, regional tickets. Winners were ecstatic.

The launch definitely showed everyone that our national flag carrier is getting itself for better service. -Siblings

PGPS Fernandez, Alice Eduardo and bar owner celebrator Small Lando, with husband Philip Lando

BOSS? Planters with G-Star brand ambassadors Mike Concepcion, Sonya Smith, Pauline Prieto, Sid Madarang and Gino Barraza

ALICE Eduardo, Agnes Hollembeak, Small Lando, Ching Cruz

G-STAR brand manager Clarissa Reyes, PDP's Ria Fernandez-Pineda

MP-PREDDIE Tinga, celebrator Small Lando, Mars Tamaya-Ang, Toby Tinga (center), Alice Eduardo, Bope Tinga, Michelle Tinga

FERDIE Salvador, Candy Cruz, Grace Ang, Alice Eduardo, Bobbie Carmona, Fela Ang

Dutch denim brand

One of the world's luxury denim brands has finally landed in our shores, dahlings.

G-Star Raw officially launched its first store in the Philippines—in Rockwell Mega Fashion Corridor—at evening opulence from the fashion pack.

Host Bergy Sitoston welcomed the guests and took flames in a line of Re-G-Star haute couture redesigns. Models were dressed in G-Star Raw's sophisticated yet edgy clothes, displaying different ensembles that could be put together from the brand's products.

Shortly after, we were invited back to the room for us to be introduced to G-Star Raw's brand ambassadors.

"We are really excited about bringing G-Star Raw to the edge to the Philippines. G-Star is a perfect fit for the young, urban lifestyle of Manila's fashionable crowd," said Charlene Reyes, brand manager.

A swinging after-bash was held at the chic Bistro, valid music by Miss Miranda, dahlings.

G-Star Raw is a luxury denim brand born Amsterdam. In Manila, its store is at Unit 204, Bonifacio High Street Central, Taguig. -Mimi Juan

CAMILLE Villanueva, Mat Lim

CELINE Gabriel-Lim, Jenny Tiaoqui

PIA Ayuso, Orvina Cadness, Liza Ikeda, Jessica Yang

"RED CARPET" detail

DETAIL of piece installation

Artist Nikki Luna evokes beauty and horror in Lopez Museum exhibit

By Arlyn Arumpac
Contributor

NIKKI LUNA is not only an artist but also a social advocate. She's founder of Gawad, a nonprofit organization that provides art therapy for children living in conflict zones in the Philippines (www.gawadproject.org).

She used her art also to tell history from the perspective of "the oppressed and marginalized collective narrative."

The narrative that weaves Luna's body of works is informed by that first trauma—the separation from the maternal, the bloody "ejecting, fusing, merging, fragmenting" body...from where one is born into helpless dependency.

In her struggle to construct a distinct identity as a woman artist, Luna said she abandoned the image of the corporeal female.

Over the years, she has painstakingly built her visual vocabulary scrutinizing the joints of birth and womanhood (two images of antinatalist domesticities—from eggs, to bees and ribbons, and other "pretty things."

In "Bone," a joint exhibition with Ronwaldo Concepcion at Lopez Memorial Museum, Luna stages once to her cervix, tackling details and minutiae through the use of materials usually associated with grandmas.

Two hundred pipes made of denim bandolier chime have a room in the exhibition area. These are illuminated by sparse lighting and a projected video of farmers tilling land in Turlac. The overlapping shadows are cast on the white wall in the video installation.

"Precious" and "Fertile" recall the anonymous trenchcoats used by police to hit demonstrators. They make references to the Fertilizer Plant explosion on Nov. 16, 2006, during which 12 farmers were killed and hundreds injured when police and soldiers opened fire at their picket line.

"Sanctuary" features diamond figures made of sugar from Hacienda Lourdes coated with resin.

"Embellished Earth" is a collection of pocket-dog cuts each containing a glittering 11-karat solid gold cast from Boc grass. Both these sets of luxurious sculptures are displayed in jewelry cases, in an attempt to emphasize the value of land and its bounty taken away from those who have nurtured and cultivated for generations.

Sculptures of opulence set against social reality evoke the paradox that Luna has discovered in her "journeys to the margins."

In "Bone," she sounds up the various meanings of the word bone. Bikos-de-from elephant)...evoking power, violence and art.

Last Aug. 11, in an artist talk in Lopez Museum, Luna talked about militarization and mining in ancestral domain areas, and about her work. "? Lupe Alfonso Induction, Mamarag Bukidnon. Opel Mountain Oriental, San Fernando-Bellochan, Rizal Luzon. Tam, Dalimoyan Midsayahay, Misamis Oriental."

Luna's works will be exhibited in the Fifth Beijing International Art Biennale in the National Art Museum of China on Sept. 26.

EXHIBIT overview

"RED CARPET" detail

SOIL installation

DETAIL of soil installation and, left, pipes and shadows

Scent of Provençal summers in 3 new colognes

L'OCCITANE has three new Eau de Colognes, inspired by Provençal springs and flowing fountains: Eau Universelle, a zesty scent that owes its name to its cardamom note; Eau Ravissante, with its floral, feminine, sparkling notes; and Eau Capitaine, with its aromatic and stimulating notes.

Bergamot, lime, petit grain, grapefruit—these classic citrus ingredients can be found in the top notes of all the L'Occitane colognes, smoothly followed by original basil and base notes. The soul of Provence drifts through each one.

There is one and formula for women, men, basil and lavender for men; petit grain and geranium for both. The fragrances are quite delightful incarnations of Provence, the glow to hand juice of summer holidays, the invisible smell of lavender that has filled in the soul, and that feeling of heat, squeaky dust skin.

Eloccitane is distributed exclusively by Beauté Cosmetics and Corp.

CLOCKWISE from top right: L'Occitane's Eau Capitaine, Eau Ravissante and Eau Universelle

LOOKS from Boss Green's Fall-Winter 2012 collection

BOSS Green's S-Cale materials also deliver color control and UV protection.

Now, eco-friendly sportswear made from coffee beans

BOSS Green offers premium sportswear for men and women; the wave boasts are sassy. If fashion and golf performance wear. A signature design with aesthetic appeal has enabled Boss Green to discover a perfect niche: interesting lifestyle and sports.

For Fall-Winter Collection 2012, senior head of creative management Josef Junge was inspired by an adventure in the mountains, with thrilling sounds of golf played in the midst of a dramatic panorama of peaks and valleys.

The look this fall is sporty and clean; the goal to meld technology, fashion and sports. Exciting details fuse with sophisticated color combinations to create a modern mien.

HONEYCOMBS Stitch details enhance comfort and refine style

The fabrics feature multiple functions. They are water-resistant, windproof and breathable. For the first time, high performance eco-friendly S-Cale materials were used: an innovative produced using coffee beans that delivers both color control and UV protection.

A feature on fashion details Banks the technical features. Mineral mixes combining cotton and nylon are a key structuring material, as are velour patches.

The season's highlight is a fresh take on the camouflage pattern, inspired by a mountain landscape. Boss Green plays with Oxford stripes on polos, reversible jersey jackets and vanguard rendering on sweatshirts with Alpine-theme patterns and seams.

Boss Green is exclusively distributed by Beauty Specialists Inc. and is featured at Greenhills 3, Rustan's Power and Newport Mall Beauty World.

Botox and fillers—how they can, in fact, age you

By Melanie Cuevas
Contributor

'A face that looks natural is the goal, not a face that looks angry even when you're not'

THERE'S NO denying that some celebrities and socialites have embraced and tested plastic surgery despite being of a "certain age."

However, a close inspection of their photos will reveal that they are beginning to look alike with their stunning eyebrows, triangular-shaped faces, cream pouts and doubling eyes.

These uncanny facial features to follow that the international gossip rags call celebs with both heels part of the "Celebrity Get Club."

Another reminders is the "pillow face," where so much fillers is injected into the cheeks, they begin to look unnaturally plump, like a fluffy pillow.

Perhaps the difference in the beauty Continent Data and now is the number of women who seek to the doctor even if they're not the 40—the typical age women kick-start their anti-aging regimens.

In one picture, this young generation's first worry is pimples, not lips; couldn't seem to smile properly. It's what Vogue magazine with "the face of nineteenmonster age"—where 40-year-old women can look 20, and 20-year-old pretty young things can look 40 with their many cosmetic like features.

'Pillow face'

There is no doubt that a little Botox, plus fillers and laser solution, toned with a light bend on the right candidate can lend a more youthful look, says Dr. Jose Mikepert of the Skin Specialist Clinic.

"As our ages, people do not only develop wrinkles but also lose fat on the face. One can develop hollow cheeks or a flattening of the center of the face. That's when we recommend dermal fillers to augment those areas and give them some volume."

Sad for those who don't really need it, high cheekbones can degenerate into cheeks that resemble marshmallows. Unfortunately, a little work done on the face, coupled with positive feedback from friends, often encourages one to do the treatments again—at higher doses.

While the "pillow face" is obviously created by overdoing on fillers, the "ear face" is the effect of having too much of everything. Brows overarch when too much Botox is administered on the forehead, making it very smooth. It can also cause the corner of the brows to drop.

In the case of too much fillers, the cheeks press against the sides of the eyes, making them look smaller and slanted, especially when one smiles. The overall result is not a youthful look, but merely of one trying to look young. On a young face, the look is a shift, unnatural one that only adds years.

Reversible

Luckily, Botox and most fillers wear off after a few months and are thus reversible. Semipermanent fillers last one to two years, while temporary fillers last four to eight months.

"In these instances, too much filler will eventually be reabsorbed by the skin. If lumps develop, a substance can be injected to melt the lumps down. But if one gets permanent fillers, that can be a problem. Silicone is usually used for permanent fillers, as it is patient comes in with lumps permanent fillers, the best is to be removed by a plastic surgeon, and that can leave scars," adds Mikepert.

So how close one avoid falling in to this trap?

Look at your options first.

Margaret usually recommends thinning treatments such as Ultherapy or Refirme, or lipoid or high power and fractional lasers to smoothen the skin.

Should one opt for fillers and Botox, ask first to see the doctor's "book book" of before-and-after photos, and stay with small amounts for less dramatic effect.

"A face that looks natural is the goal, not a face that looks angry even when you're not," says Margaret.

Dr. Jose Mikepert, The Skin Specialist Clinic, UCP BDO Building, Tuason Ave., QC. Tel. 3748887

The author is the former editor of COOL Magazine. She is editor at www.fromtowork.com.

Ferragamo at the Olympics

SALVATORE FERRAGAMO designed the uniforms that the athletes of the Republic of San Marino wore during the 2012 London Olympics.

The brand's DNA is reflected in the unique sophisticated balance of contemporary styles infusing sweet spontaneous beauty and luxury style by code with functionality and comfort, handcrafted passion with hi-tech.

The result is a complete men's and women's collection which enables for any occasion that ranged from leisure wear to evening dresses.

The athletes wore blue linen cut dress trousers over crepe de Chine shirts with solaire cotton sweaters during official events. For formal evenings, the dress shirts dress mixed tone a wool tuxedo silk crepe dress, in neckline paired with a small cappello drape. The shoes in porcelain colored snappy were square toes with a bent bow.

The garments designed for leisure included a sweaterjacket/cardi, an ultralightweight summer jacket that doubled up as a vest, a reversible two tone belt, as well as sweatpants such as a cashmere pullover, a button-down poplin shirt, beige trousers and blue jeans loafers. The brand's iconic bag, the Bella, came in a small version in luminous navy cobbler to complete the collection.

The interplay of innovation and cultural tradition was visible in the modular, multipurpose garments, such as the knitted jacket with a removable nylon quilt vest. Movement classics came in new weights and fabrics, such as a straight-cut trench, a parasport zip flap clasping elegantly over the slip up underwater knife sock, blue chinos and dark brown loafers.

For more formal occasions, the elegance of a (practically impeccable) pinstripe suit was highlighted by bold black Oxford lace-ups. A navy colored tech coat with the coordinates of a blue blazer and beige chinos. Three-piece with three indispensable travelling companions: a large leather duffle bag, a small shoulder bag and a beauty case.

In the Philippines, Salvatore Ferragamo is exclusively distributed by Shoe Specialist Inc. and it is at Power Plant Mall, Greenbelt 4, Rustan's Tower, Rustan's MAKE, Alabang Town Center and Rustan's Ayala Cebu.

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LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty

ANNA Wintour

What Anna Wintour, Bernard Arnault, other style icons have in common—other than fashion

BERNARD Arnault

Interactive fountain draws crowds to SM GenSan

AL FRESCO strip of the mall has a dancing fountain and a pavilion space for entertainment functions

The beautiful game—and it's not football

IT'S GOOD like Anna Wintour isn't the only fashion type who's hooked on tennis.

Some powerful names in fashion, apparently, also love to serve the courts in their own private dens, according to an article in the New York Times.

"There's CEO Bill by Gucci Bernard Arnault who's described as an "extremely good" tennis fanatic by famous architect Hector Marino, himself an avid tennis player who undertakes the arduous month of August off just to play daily Masters at Gstaad, for designing tennis for Louis Vuitton, Chanel, Dior, Fendi and Celine.

There's also the point Hilary Rhoda, Nina Mitchell, the senior vice president for communications at Hermès, Bernard Lietzenmeier, W's deputy editor, Jeffrey Gerstling, Vogue's entertainment editor, and Kevin Mulligan, photographer Annie Leibovitz's agent and similar managers.

According to the New York Times, other tennis fanatic players are Jessica Diehl, Vanity Fair's style and fashion director, who describes the game as "more meditative than people"; and David Saville, the designer of Rag & Bone, who's married to makeup artist Hazel Mountain. Whatever beautiful doesn't play, but just like Wimbledon, she's a huge

WHAT ABOUT, G2

SM CITY General Santos' entrance strip radiates energy in the city with its brightly colored kiddie planes and water features.

THE ATRIUM'S sculpted white and orange ceiling, reminiscent of the outdoor canopy designs

SM PRIME Holdings president Hans Sy welcomes the first wave of shoppers as soon as he opened the mall's doors to the public

SM CITY General Santos' architectural design and color motif is inspired by the pristine natural environment which the area is known for.

QUEEN Festival Mutya Lyra Nonapinon on audition's table receives winner by the winners of the Tiboli tribe in South Cotabato

Interactive fountain draws crowds to SM GenSan

From page 01

the best place to see the Sranes with.

SM City General Santos will also have events for shoppers in the Al Fresco area, making it a perfect leisure and entertainment destination.

SM City General Santos, which opened Aug. 10, is SM Prime Holdings's 49th supermall, and the third in Mindanao. The 125,000-sq.m. mall will serve shoppers in the Tuna Capital of the Philippines and the rest of the Soccsksargen region.

Mixing pure retail with great design, it brings innovative development to Cotabato, including the first iconic elevators in the city, by a winding staircase, an all-new dining area and eco-friendly elements.

It has the SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, four digital cinemas, a food court and exciting shops and restaurants, and a five-story parking building and transport area.

SM PRIME Holdings president Hans Sy welcomes world-boxing champion and Sarangani Rep. Manny Pacquiao, his wife Jinkee and Davao Rep. Pedro Acharon Jr.

PACMAN'S Governor Dionisia Pacquiao

SM PRIME Holdings president Hans Sy, Vice Mayor Martin Magnaye, Rep. Pedro Acharon Jr., Rep. Magic Ramos Benosaliva, Gordon Mayor Dinhora Antonino Custodio, Sultan Kudarat Rep. Suharto Mangudadatu and Koronadal vice chair Herbert Sy during the ribbon-cutting ceremony

ALPHABIA Sukaran and son Ramon

ELEGANT glass elevators

CINEMAGOERS at SM City General Santos can enjoy their movies at the first state-of-the-art digital cinemas with brightly colored red and white lobbies

COLORFUL kiddie groups terminally connect a wide variety of shops, restaurants and entertainment facilities.

MIXING pure retail with great design, SM City General Santos brings innovative design features to the city

Criselda proves her formula for women of certain age

By Margie C. Enriquez
Lifestyle Editor

Tunics, dolman sleeves, paneled skirts–your options are many

APPALLED by the fashion blunders of women of a certain age, Boutique's designer Criselda Lumbi has developed her clothing line to help women revive their individual style while remaining age-appropriate.

Her line is sure-fire feminine—soft tunic tops with wrist points over slim pencil skirts; batwing, dolman and bell-sleeve dresses; boxy jackets; shawl overlays and sleeveless, all of which conceal flabby arms and bulges.

The silhouettes de-emphasize the problems of mature women. She's still gotcha covered in flounces allow the wearer more freedom of movement; forgiven gowns or draped dresses flatter all figures. Monotone disguise the widening girth. The pants are perfected for easy fit.

Prints are ostensibly a no-no but its rich colors and luminous fabrics.

In her latest collection, Lumbi, as always, advises her women customers to avoid trying too hard. The designer's label, Criselda, espouses that mature women can keep up with the trend without looking it.

Take the peplum topic. The tailored silhouettes of Criselda's jackets is structured, to give the body shape while the peplum cleverly hides the bulge.

Then there's the Oriental sleeves trend that uses blocks silk and some touches such as the Mao collar.

Criselda's red collection is an various paintings—patterned shoulder, ruffled blouses, to cocoon tops and figure-skimming sheath dresses.

For women who resist something sleeveless, Criselda suggests bolero.

Bright orange evokes a summer feel.

Purple is perfect for elegant silhouettes.

Fuchsia is for women who're not remotely afraid to raise.

When one is in doubt about colors, there's the black collection. Although it can elevate a boxy figure, black can make one look old. A neat styled peplum.

The designer uses black for evening dresses—lace dresses, halter tops, pebble prints and evening gowns in charmeuse satin and silk gazar.

The classic looks are given a twist such as making Peplum pleats with mesh or inserting scrunches on the shirts and sleeves.

There's a bold silhouette—the structured bustier skirt.

Lumbi avoids flimsy looks by using asymmetric necklines and chiffon tops.

Since the launch of the holiday collection, women have swamped up the Forum-planted separates, which are ideal for travel, and the Criselda signature dress, loose, boxy tops. Shoppers get four or five combinations of the same style.

But the shopping comes with advocacy. Criselda Lumbi encouraging donations to Bantay Bata 163.

"Make sure how fortunate! My prayer for good color and donations were answered," says Lumbi.

Criselda's how-tos

Styled by Larry Lontoc

INVEST in a shirking jacket with 3/4 sleeves, large collar and patch pockets. Pants are slim and ankle-length for easy pairing with suits.

THE 2011 LBD is purposely sleeveless, peplum dress can be flaunt easy to ripples from your body. This is good for any body type, from skinny to plus size.

SLEEVING prints in gold and purple to make a strapless long dress can wear, and so plus the illusion of a slimmer you.

CASCADING peplums add lots the perceived hip areas, while the cantilever only pushes your eyes a slim line.

NEW JANTENNE don't make a long term to micro-sleeved silk tunic. Build necklace by Joyce Makinlo.

Kyle Patrick of Click Five to join antihuman trafficking concert in Dumaguete today

MTV DiMAGIC Justin Bieber Fan Experience and Trafficking (Exit) and the Movement of Anti- Trafficking Action (MAIA) will hold today (Aug. 17) the National Anti-Trafficking Roadshow Concert at the Dumaguete Freedom Park.

Kyle Patrick, the lead singer of the Click Five and MTV EXIT's celebrity ambassador, will perform.

"I'm really excited to be in the Philippines to sing my music to spread the word about human trafficking. Because it's a big, and that they can help to make a difference and end it," Patrick said. "I've heard so many stories about girls that were sold and can't believe what they have been through. They are the strongest people I have ever met and many the world don't even realize exist to go through that."

Silent film fest at Sharq

The Ultimate Institute Silent Film Festival will occur the Sharq Complex of the Shangri-La Plaza (Aug. 24 to 27).

The festival is organized by the Another Festival, Japan Foundation-Manila, Embassy of Italy, Instituto Cervantes de Manila, Embassy of the United States of America and Film Development Council of the Philippines.

Secretary's Walk hosts kicks off the film fest on Aug. 24, 7 p.m. Bobbie Inc. will provide the music.

The Spanish romantic comedy film "La Cebolla de Troya" screens on Aug. 25, 3 p.m. Fernando, who plans to get back on track and reinvent a degree to her, meets Celeste girl Carmen in a restaurant/bakery called La Casa de la Troya. Hilarity ensues her despite her world's objections. Popular OPM band Imeldific® is composed by Ignatius Pupa, will provide the scoring.

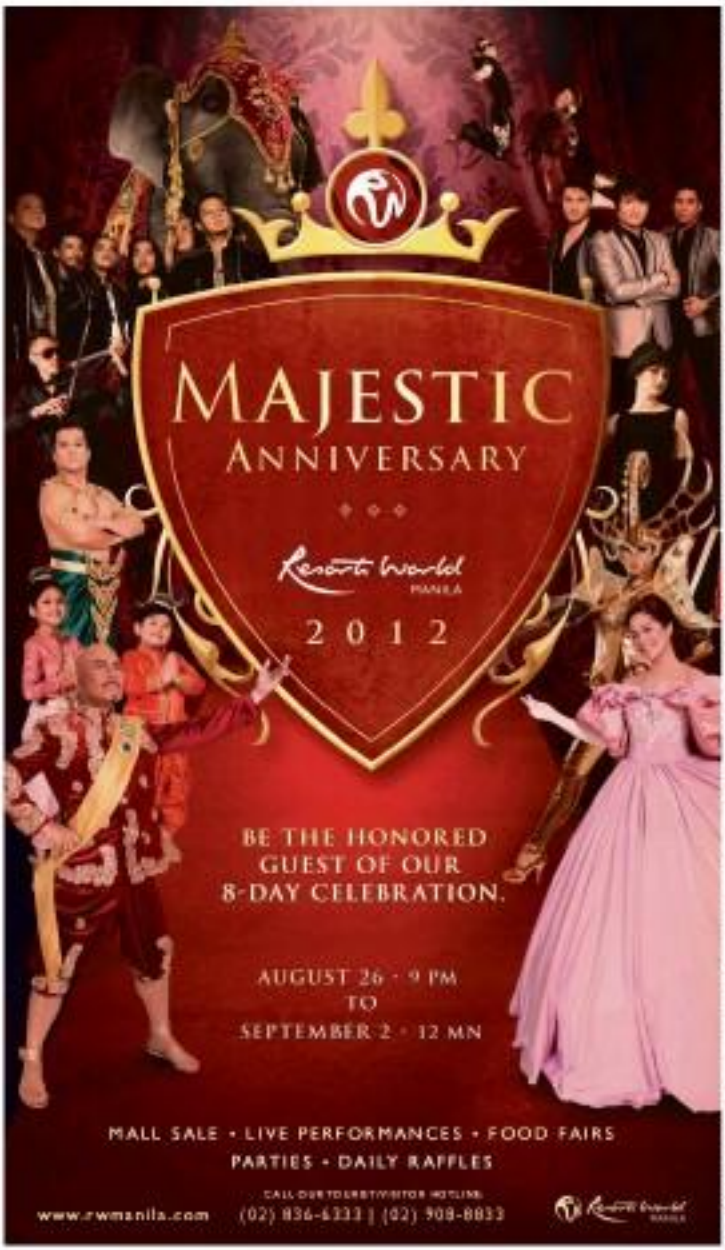
The Japanese "Yatsu Boro, But..." will be shown Aug. 26, 7 p.m. It follows the story of Ryoichi, who, after one of events, realizes that his father wasn't the schoolkids and great role he thought he was. His father, in turn, reflects on his own days and history, and deals with his own personal relation with his son. Reggae sounds from Tropical Depression Leader set the musical scoring.

Italy's "La Signora delle Camelie" will be shown on Aug. 28, 3 p.m. Boh, we can this tragic love story of courtesan Marguerite Gautier and aristocrat Armand Duval. Camille will play music during the screening.

On Aug. 26, 7 p.m., the Filipino film "Pay-day," directed by Raymond Red, will be shown. It tells the story of a man trapped in a recurring nightmare of lost dreams, who vows for a goal and mission. It will be followed by "Pelikula, a short yet abstract five-minute visual offering also by Red. Composer Diwata Leon, violinist for and founder of the Malikha Ensemble, will play live original compositions.

Prior to the screening of "Diwata," Red and Lunch Box critic Mia Tenebre will hold a talk on "The Cultural Hit Saga of Silent Cinema in the Philippines."

The festival's closing film is "Safety Last," one of the greatest American film comedies, which will screen on Aug. 27, 7 p.m. The film revolves around the funny misadventures of a short-stack who,



What's Up

after sequencing a contest to climb the outside of a tall building, is forced by circumstances to make the perilous climb to succeed. Popular eight-piece ensemble Pacific Jazz Stage Project will provide the scoring.

Call 2012-2688 or log on to event.shangrila-plaza.com, Ante Shangri-La Plaza on Facebook/shangrilaplazaMallSingapore.

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Buddhist lecture

Dr. Kuttanpurathe Ven. Anandajothi Thero will hold this free lecture "Buddhism: Medicine for the Mind" at the Prana Lecture Hall, 7 of UP Diliman by Tampo on Aug. 18, 3:30 p.m. The event is organized by Fo Guang Shan Mahaboy Temple and Buddha's Light International Association (BLIA) and the help of BLIA Manila Chapter, Buddhist Society for Training Spiritual Excellence (BSTSE), Fo Guang Shan Philippines (FGSP), Hsi Lai University, and in collaboration with the Embassy of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Thero holds a doctor of philosophy degree. He is fluent in English, German, French, Russian and Dutch. He has many an in-depth study on the historical origins and perspectives of Buddhism in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, China, Japan, Korea, Tibet and Mongolia. He is also knowledgeable on the life of the Buddha and on the Hinayanayan schools of Sarvastivada, Sautrak, Mahayana, Theravada and Vajrayana.

Those keen to participate in the Buddhist Lecture Series that is held every month at Kilo Mahaboy Temple. The activity aims to acquaint visitors, especially in Buddhist philosophy, Eastern philosophy and ethics. Lectures are presented by monastics, as well as guest speakers from the academe and temple volunteers.

Visit www.facebook.com/mahaboytemple, e-mail to tgspmanila@gmail.com, call 888-8548.

Hyatt staycation packages

Available until Oct. 31, local residents can make the most of their stay with the "Early Eight, Late Night" room package, offering an early check-in time of 8:00 a.m. and late checkout time of 8:00 p.m. Beyond day. With 24 hours of extra free time, guests can choose to relax in, relax by the pool, have a late lunch or dinner at the hotel's award-winning restaurants, or take a stroll through the city and soak in the beautiful ambiance of the city of Manila.

With rates starting at P7,500 net per room night, guests can enjoy the following: Breakfast buffet for two adults and their kids; complimentary breakfast for two kids aged 6 years old and below at Market Cafe; while children aged 6 to 12 years old are charged at 50% off the rate; access to fitness center and outdoor swimming pool; children's pool and whirlpool; 20% discount on massage treatments; and 10% off on selected spa services at Spa at Club Suites; and 20% off at Market Cafe, Li Li and The Fireplace.

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What Anna Wintour...

Reagan Baughman

Reagan Pedersen Inc.

The designer Reed Krakoff is reportedly not here husband, with whom she previously separated, in a tennis match. Other designers rumoured by the gossip are Tom Ford, Tory Burch and Tommy Hilfiger. There's also E! editor Giovanni Tisselli.

Sources say she denied that during New York Fashion Week, when rumours surrounded the US Open, editors like Lauren Conrad would skip a show to watch a match.

Apart from their on-court fashion choices, she smile asks the readers about the power of their fashion choices.

"She's like a sentence," says Jim trainer of Wintour. "She's so flat. She'll close down everything. She doesn't let out a loved spot, but she has an amazing core control forehand."

Another trainer says many of his students are actually dabbled in the game. "A lot of people in fashion come at you competitively, and if anything they're very like strong and athletic," the trainer tells the New York Times. "And, of course, if you're in the business you have to look a certain way," he said. "You have to be in shape and never does that, too."

CVM

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Lighten dark areas and minimize stretch marks

Big brows are back

Story on page H4

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Kelly Misa

CAN YOU recommend any beauty product that can help lighten dark spots and armpits and remove stretch marks?

MAY

The darkening of underarms, elbows and knees is most likely due to hyperpigmentation, a skin condition that affects more people than you think. It is mainly a result of excess melanin, which can be hereditary or triggered by sun exposure or pregnancy.

In the case of melanosis, the area can turn dark as a reaction to your deodorant, shaving or shaving. Avoid skin build-up or rubbing against tight clothing. Areas like your elbows and knees can also become dark and rough when you forget to exfoliate and moisturize.

The good news is, there are many ways to lighten those areas, and you can even use ingredients you can find in your kitchen. Foods with whitening properties include lemon or calamansi, as well as papaya and milk. You may try using these to lighten dark areas, but keep in mind these will take time (a few weeks) before you see a significant change.

Another way to do it is to find a whitening system to suit your needs and budget. Find a soap, lotion, moisturizer or cream that have active ingredients like vitamin C, alpha hydroxy acids (AHA) and licorice extract, which are known to help brighten skin. Some even double as an exfoliant or deep moisturizer, which are also needed to speed up the whitening process.

But if you're looking for a more clinical plan of action, a visit to your dermatologist is a good idea. She may be able to recommend a more potent whitening or bleaching cream to even out those dark

LIFESTYLE H2

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Affordable must-try new treatments to stem facial aging and boost skin care

WHEN I WAS a teenager, my mom bugged me on our weekends: I didn't listen to her. But if I had a daughter now, I would do exactly the same. Since kids now are really savvy and they can access information easily, my daughter would listen when would be best for her skin and future.

The word affordable may never apply to Shiseido or La Prairie, but they now folds true for its Advanced Marine Biology Lifestyle. This three-item regular range is only for those who are experiencing the first signs of aging. Its goal is to keep skin looking young as long as possible.

Personally, I love how it makes my skin feel light and young. It is also easy to apply.

I would highly recommend mothers to get their daughters this line since developing a beauty routine early is good for them. (I got my husband to use the routine. Since the packaging is lightweight and portable, I take it to the dining when we travel.)

Below are the various formulas and treatments of the Advanced Marine Biology Lifestyle line.

Knockout!

Ria Francisco-Prieto

Advanced Marine Biology Foaming Cleanser addresses that vital first step to achieving beautiful, ageless skin. This gentle, high-lathering cleanser contains a natural, coconut-derived cleansing agent that removes all traces of makeup, impurities and pollutants from the skin.

A state-of-the-art **Advanced Liquefy** concentrate derived from algae prevents the loss of essential nutrients and conditions the skin, providing the most receptive canvas for moisturizing treatments.

The sea algae-endowed powers of prevention manifests itself most dramatically in **Advanced Marine Biology Revitalizing Emulsion**, a new-generation, night-cushion moisturizer for the face, neck and eye area. It's designed for the fast-paced lifestyle of multi-talented women and men who are intent on maximizing their daily maintenance routines without sacrificing their high standards of performance.

A'kin Natural line

Eye-wrinkle treatment

The skincare more sensitive skin tissue surrounding the eyes, wherein signs of aging first appear, is the beneficiary of Advanced Marine Biology Eye Gel, an "extra level" treatment product in La Prairie's expansive range of de-agers.

This cooling, smoothing gel blends basic lavender and sea-sourced substances to minimize the appearance of wrinkles and dark circles and the accompanying feeling of puffiness.

Lightweight, instantly absorbed Advanced Marine Biology Day Cream SPF 20 hydrates the skin and helps maintain its natural moisture, while protecting it against the aging effects of free radicals and UVB and UVA rays.

In addition, a unique super-calcium complex stimulates collagen production to improve firmness and elasticity—essential elements in preserving the skin's youthful texture and appearance.

Advanced Marine Biology Emulsion is these phase conditioning treatment lotion. It improves the skin's elasticity, making it brighter, more even-toned.

LA PRAIRIE Advanced Marine Biology Lifestyle line available this August at Rustan's

A'kin

Another "clean-worthy" line is the Power Company's A'kin.

A'kin products are naturally based, multi-tasked, self-proclaimed, one-or-minimal wasting. I've been enlisting my hair for years, and when I received A'kin shampoo and conditioner for dry or damaged hair, I wasn't excited.

But I was very satisfied with the results. My hair feels clean and light and it smells good.

I was compelled to ask Denise Ilaw of Rustan's what makes A'kin different.

"A'kin's sophisticated results, because of its natural ingredients, leave hair feeling beautiful and extra clean, while retaining the essential natural oils and moisture," she said. "Many of the other shampoos on the market are harsh and abrasive cleansing agents which momentarily strip the hair of its own moisture and then restore the hair shaft with synthetic conditioning coating agents in an effort to replace lost shine and body. As A'kin shampoo do's no sweat the hair, a conditioner is always recommended to get the most from your wash."

ORGANIC Lotion

Meanwhile, A'kin conditioners feature generous amounts of natural nourishing ingredients—including cold-pressed certified organic australian-grown avocado oil, Australian macadamia oil, Australian jojoba oil and fresh-picked Australian protein (GMO free), she said.

Rustan said all the ingredients are rapidly absorbed to penetrate, nourish and revolutionize each shaft of hair very effectively.

"Conditioners use," she said, "can lead to chemicals and impurities accumulation in the conditioner of your hair and the health of your skin and scalp."

Organic lotion

Going green is getting easier by the minute. My friend's hypersensitive skin loves Organic Time' Moisturizing lotion. I used it for five days straight and my skin now is calmed. I use it right after my shower and my skin gets moisturized without feeling sticky. I also like that it doesn't have such a strong scent. I know it scent fight with my baby cologne.

Acca Kappa's Mughin Rosso is one scent every man will love and every woman will love on their man. When my husband and I have to give a gift to a man, this is what we give.

Now I think I will also start giving it diffuser. Our bathroom smells amazingly clean when I use it. I even breathe it in our room at night.

ACCA Kappa Diffuser

Rich Herrera: His 'Amazing' routine for keeping fit

Fit and adventurous, he won Season 4 of 'Amazing Race Asia.' Now he's hosting 'The MTV Show' in Singapore where girls get to see more of his charm and rugged good looks

RICH RAH yoga poses

RICH Herrera

Deep Clean Cleansing Foam

Facial Fuel Energizer and Shield

L'Oréal Men Expert Hydra Energetic

RICH Herrera's cream basics

ComicRelief

inquirer.net

GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS

A. UPIN — BY ED ABERA

PUGAD BABOY — BY PAL LARROCA

DICK TRACY — BY JOE STATON AND MIKE CLARK

LOVE MOMS — BY ELIZABETH HOANGLO

BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

RIKO MACHINE — BY MARK ABERA

SEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON

MUTTS — BY PATRICK MCDONNELL

SHERMAN'S LAGOON — BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN — BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOK — BY MARA COLL

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

THE BIRTH TODAY You are always aware of reality and honesty. Although you are reserved in the social circle it is difficult not to notice blind whatever you say or do. You also can be antagonist with someone how to be honest or suffer what you say and get your way. Relationship you with on the down. On you it at this new year an important event will arise. Choose wisely.

Birthstone Gift friends to Mrs. actor. Blue stones, unpolished. Actor. Negro, look, publisher? Create an activity.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Today might be the last day of the year to work yourself? If you have enough you have to your life. It's important to improve your emotions with, because you can't handle everything.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Today is the best time of year to sit and yourself what you can do to improve your home and/or to your family relationships. There are important areas for you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Examine your daily schedule and with relationships with daily contacts. What is your communication like with the people you meet day to day? Make changes today.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Think about your feelings and how out yours. Involved in that source, especially with home and family. Do you feel secure?

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) The only time Mercury is your sign of year is making plans today. Therefore, with your ideas, you can be very impressive to your relationships with those who are important to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) This is a good day for to make decisions and self-reflection. Ask yourself, "What is my creative style?" You don't need to be 100 years old to have one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Document where in your life someone can be a positive sign. Decide to socialize with others. Today is a good time to recognize who you value.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Today's New Moon is the perfect opportunity for a constructive discussion you are hesitant to do. Are you going in the direction you want?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) What further advice that is found and implemented you (A, B) to control your life. Be open to new and unconventional suggestions yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) The video and creative, which is one reason why it's important for you to keep up your mind shutter and tidy up those work responsibilities. Just don't.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) This is the best day of the year to start new acquaintance your personality and deliver friendships. There must be something — new relationships.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Now we you give yourself some credit as well as a better assessment of your world. What new attitude or new regime might you adopt to bring this about?

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com

Concepts Sudoku — By Dave Green

9								7
	7			5		1	9	
	3	4				8		
			6		3			
	1						2	
			7		9			
		7				9	3	
	8	6		4			7	
1								2

Difficulty level ★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Prestigious award
5. Competitive kick
10. Jacket
14. Roger or Henry
15. Jab
16. Tuberculosis diagnostics
17. Ambience
18. Wonderful wizards
19. Right for a consumer
20. Commandeer
21. Ancient Greek title to whom women
23. Competes
24. Tend a bar
25. Pimple
26. Hallucinations
27. Nuclear power (Chernobyl)
28. Bright sunlight
29. Bright metallic element
30. Pronounce
31. Absorbs with
34. Bird
35. Bird's home
36. Wonderful guide
37. Judgments
38. Ski run or woods
39. Embarrass
40. Tuna, perhaps
41. Whatever remains
42. Hemostatic substance
43. Organic
44. Sandwich bar
45. Cafe or brasserie
46. Harmful
47. Wonderful world
48. Cafe or brasserie
49. Down in here
50. Elephant
51. Unemployed workers
52. Cheerful
53. Point (emphasis)

DOWN

1. Poet Angelou
2. Olive paint
3. Pond
4. Curse
5. Cuban
6. Wizards
7. Bird's home
8. Pheasant, quail
9. Bar (Cuba)
10. Lively Scottish performance
11. Alpine region
12. Plant root
13. Flowers
14. Cafe or brasserie
15. Cafe or brasserie
16. Commercial plan (abbr.)
17. Cafe or brasserie
18. Cafe or brasserie
19. Hamlet or Macbeth
20. Pride
21. Cafe or brasserie
22. Islamic government
23. Bird
24. ... all about Amanda
25. Duck
26. Cafe or brasserie
27. Cafe or brasserie
28. Trampled
29. Kind of refrigerant
30. Lake ancestor, Ariel
31. Source of water
32. Old Old Crow
33. Cafe or brasserie
34. Cafe or brasserie
35. Cafe or brasserie
36. Cafe or brasserie
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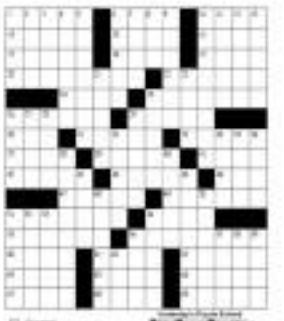
53. Cafe or brasserie



Answer to previous puzzle

Ditch those tweezers, full brows are back

FULL brows at MaxMara Fall 2012

By Cinchie F. Maral

IF YOU'RE a little put off by "Mirror, Mirror" actress Lily Collins' bushy eyebrows, well, get used to it because eyebrow-phobes, pencil-thin eyebrows are out and fuller, unshaven are in! Totally back. Get plucking and groom back Cheri Oteri!

"Eyebrows is a big story this season," said Jenna Medina, MAC director for artistry for the Asia Pacific and China region. Medina is advising other many of his fellow makeup artists how eyebrows have pushing in recent seasons. "You can see women opening fuller brows," Medina said at several local presentations.

On the runways, fuller eyebrows were seen in the Fall 2012 shows of Dolce & Gabbana, Burberry, Blair Jacobs, Celebrity pops on. Kim Kardashian, Camilla Belle, Jennifer Connelly, Brooke Shields and, yes, Lily Collins.

MAC presents four key looks for Fall/Winter 2012, and one feature a statement-the full brow.

"In my previous, this look is almost a nude sculptural face as a canvas for a bold complexion, an angry and more purposefully grounded, from which the effect comes more to bring's. Indeed, a brow is the axis of what makes these looked, made looks was completely," it says in the MAC

MAC Cremesheen + Pearl lip gloss collection, available in September

NATURAL face with a bold dash of color on the lips, at Monique Lhuillier Fall 2012

woman look/look.

The easy look focuses on sculpting the face by playing on shadows, creating depth and slightly bolder cool-red cheeks.

Key look

Another key look is a natural face with a bold dash of color on the lips.

"It doesn't mean you can't use an eyeliner or mascara," Medina noted. "It's just that you're making the lips the statement instead of your accessorizing."

To create the look, Medina said MAC Studio Sculpt foundation, which is liquid and has a slight sheen, just a sheer layer so you don't have a fake face finish. Next, concealer like the Pro-Longwear stick that removes, he said, serves for the eyes and filled in the spaces on the brows, but seemed against being too heavy-handed on the inside corners.

For the pop of color on the lips, Medina suggested Lady Escapes a bright matte tangerine red lipstick that he called the "perfect mix of red and orange."

Lady Escapes, a top-selling shade that's almost sheer on the eyes, and of nude, "feels young, vibrant, effervescent, stunning and very chic" against a stained face, Medina described. It also perfectly suits Filipinas' darkness.

To finish off, he dusted the model's face with Mineralize Skinfinish, a translucent powder with a "modern matte" finish that Medina also uses as powder concealer to smooth the lines.

How to lighten . . .

From page B1

spots. She may have a separate concoction for your underarms, since this area can be quite sensitive.

More complicated

Now, when it comes to stretch marks, well, that can be a little more complicated. Most get stretch marks when we grow or gain weight too quickly, which causes our skin to break in some areas. It isn't a serious thing, but, of course, we all want our skin to look smooth and blemish-free.

One of the most effective ways to prevent stretch marks is by moisturizing daily, which helps skin become more elastic and pliant. This is one of those times when that old adage, "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure," applies. Moisturizing daily will help stave off stretch marks.

However, if you have dermatosis, try to invest the most in your skin. The earlier you attack those stretch marks, the easier it will be to minimize them. There appearance will depend on your skin color. They start out pink, reddish-brown, brown or dark brown and eventually fade into a more silvery color. They're easily noticeable when will red or purple, than when they've faded silver or white with deep indentations.

Luckily, there are quite a few products out there that help minimize stretch marks. Read the label and look for the following active ingredients: retinoids (proven to increase collagen and elastic production, but not to be used when trying), glycolic acid (also known as AHA), this boosts collagen production) and vitamin C (works well with glycolic acid).

There may also be available in their present form from your dermatologist. And if you are looking for a faster way to zap those marks, ask your doctor about laser treatments.

Got a beauty question? E-mail the author at ask.kellymass@gmail.com.

FLAWLESS beauty

BACKSTAGE at Anna Sui Spring Summer 2012

What key cosmetic ingredients to look for in anti-aging products

HAVE YOU ever noticed that advertisements of skincare products that tell themselves as anti-aging claim to cater to young women but only those aged up to their mid-40s maximum? Why is that?

It seems to imply that women who for their 50s onwards should either go into hiding or resort to cosmetic surgery.

Still some products target older women. Here are various skin-firming and wrinkle-repair products, especially for Asian women whose skin age way before it wrinkles.

MAKEOVER 911

Klang Salas

Olay Regenerist Micro-Sculpting Cream

Coenzyme Q10

Coenzyme Q10, also known as CoQ10 or ubiquinone, may prove the skin from common signs of aging, according to the website Skin Therapy Letter.

Coenzyme Q10 is found naturally in the core of cells where it is thought to improve cell energy and stimulate the immune system.

Coenzyme Q10 also contains natural levels of CoQ10 to start developing, which ensure skin-firming collagen and elastic fibers to become sluggish, notes the website Smart Skin Care.

A study published in the Biofactors journal in 1999 concluded that CoQ10 may hold off many negative effects of photoaging, or sun damage, which typically include loose or sagging skin and deep wrinkles. Try Kinetin CoQ10 Plus anti-wrinkle lotion Day Care SPF15, Q10 Plus Night Care, eye cream for puffiness, lines and undereye circles). Treatment is perfect for skin in the 30s to 40s, is formulated for combination to oily skin. It is non-greasy, light, and does not clog pores.

Combination treatment

Peptides and Retinol are a combination treatment. The former gives skin that purify-defying boost to maximize facial contours so face looks smaller and skin tighter. Retinol exfoliates dead skin, smooths skin tone and regenerates skin for that youthful, even-toned glow.

Olay Regenerist Micro-Sculpting Cream has the combination. It firms up the skin's appearance even in the most stagnant areas of the jaw line and cheeks. Packs in high concentration of amino peptide complex, it penetrates deep into the skin. Results have been compared to Proctor & Gamble's iconic high end skincare line SK-II. Skin requires refined pores, firmer features, and a bright glow. It also retains its original texture.

Restorative line

Celetique Restorative line has been tested by subjects aged up to 60 years old. It is designed to be used with the advanced anti-aging line. But it could substitute for the Restorative Night Cream for face and neck.

The star product is the Restorative Ultra Lifting serum for the neck to be used before the night cream. I like apply it to my jaw line and the back of the hands to keep skin firm plump and young and there some which gets away age.

Double chin and neck cream

Try also the New Peptin Reducing and Revitalizing Care. It is potent but surprisingly reasonably priced.

New Peptin Double Chin and Neck Cream is my favorite. My double chin was restrained and my bubble cheeks seem to have contracted that people assume I have an Asian Eyes only. I only need it twice a day for a week, on my cheeks, chin and neck after cleansing and toning and I looked as if I lost five pounds on day five.

Call 0917-5399004. Visit www.newpeptin.com to check out other products that may interest you, such as eyelash growth enhancer and lip-collagen treatment.

E-mail A story of style@gmail.com.

REDUCHIN Double Chin and Neck Cream

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emerson G. Yolardo

'Mendoncanilla' wins in Montreal

FILIPINO filmmaker Khavn de la Cruz's "Mendoncanilla" won the special mention prize of the 16th Festival International des Films du Monde Festival in Montreal, Canada, last week. The story about the Filipino exile Kim Tan (Mendoncanilla) who finds the absolute peace of his country's most disadvantaged ... (encompassing) God "all of humanity." "Mendoncanilla" shared the honor with Kazuhiro Soda's "Image Fight" in Japan. — Rupert Con Diego Jr.

CHEER FACTOR

'Mad Men' star Jon Hamm: I'm no Lothario

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Andrew F. Segnalan

LOS ANGELES—"Mad Men" star Jon Hamm talked about his two new film projects in a recent interview.

Looking dapper as usual in a suit, Jon said he has never done off-tv movie before because the TV series "Mad Men" is produced by a cable network classified, AMC, and not by the studio executives.

"It's not as hard as it would be if we were shooting on a network schedule," he said the actor who shot to fame playing advertising executive Don Draper in the drama series set in the 1960s.

He added: "I have seven months off and five months on. So I have a movie that I shot a long time ago, I just did some looping on it. It's directed by Art Robinson who did 'Wild, Wild West.' We're adapting a science fiction novel, 'The Parasitological Congress' from the '50s. It's a very interesting movie with Robin Wright. That film is still being animated and pieced together. But they hope to have that come out in Cannes next year."

Aside from Jon and Robin, "The Congress," which combines live-action and animation, also stars Paul Giamatti and Harvey Keitel. The film is Ari's follow-up to his acclaimed "Waltz ..." which screened in Cannes in 2008.

Jon likewise announced: "I'm also going to start working on a film with Lucy Dyrdal that we're going to shoot in the Four Count. It will be very improvised and very Lucy Dyrdal-y."

Jon plays a villain in the HBO fantasy film noir-ish love story—the comedy genius behind the TV series "Check Your Enthusiasm"—who is due in the next shooting with Michael Keaton.

HAPPY on marriage: "It's a strange thing."

WITH GIRLFRIEND Jennifer Westfeldt: "We share core issues and acting." AFP/VOA

Witty girlfriend

Speaking of HBO, Jon disclosed that his girlfriend, writer- and screenwriter Jennifer Westfeldt, is working on a pilot project for the top-cable TV network. "They haven't cast it," he said. "The pilot will be produced by our company (Points View Pictures). But we're not working together on it. She's working it and will star in it if, in fact, it gets through."

Jon said that their production company which they formed in 2009, "is very active on finding and developing material. Jen is obviously an incredibly diligent, hardworking, multifaceted filmmaker. She can write, which I can not do. It takes me four hours to figure out how to write an e-mail. I can't edit and since it is blinking cursor for longer than 30 seconds or 2 hours to walk out of the room."

On marriage

Asked for his opinion on marriage, Jon, 41, said: "It's a strange thing that people resist to. It's exotic mores, put a relationship into one box or another. Jen and I have been together, going on 10 years now which is longer than most people that I know have been married. It's so challenging as a marriage is. My three best friends, a dog and bank account. We have every relational arrangement that a marriage would have."

At present, he added, they don't feel the need to get married. "At some point down the line in the future, when we feel it's a necessity that needs to be addressed, we have a lot of great places that we could maybe go [to] do that."

On his "Mad Men" character's noted seducing skills, Jon quipped: "That's probably a better question for her. She probably's good [chuckle] ... Jen has willpower and self... Hopefully. She's got that times a million and it's in a nice package as well."

The Emmy® nature claimed that he's the opposite of Don. "It takes a while for people to realize that I'm not the person that I play on TV," he stressed.

Awkward...shy

"But within five seconds of meeting me, people are usually disabused of that notion. I'm awkward, relatively shy and not very much like Don. When you're put in the category of a sexy guy, you can either play it up and really be that guy or you can play against it. I have chosen to play against it because that's way closer to really who I am. I'm not like Lothario, the lady-killer. It's way easier to do that when the words are not mine but only the pauses after the other person to say 'fuck me, you, it's a lot easier to do that.'"

He joked, "You don't get sued as much."

Told that Matthew Weiner, creator of "Mad Men," said in an earlier interview that he (Jon) is funny at keeping the show's plot secrets, Jon explained: "Matt's trouble with keeping secrets is that the easiest way to get him to tell you any secrets at all is simply to ask him. He doesn't quite get that you're not supposed to ask him. For his 40th birthday I bought him a gift packet of business cards that just said, 'Stop telling.'"

On his knowledge about "Mad Men's" plot developments, Jon said: "Matt is playing that up a little bit. I don't know everything. But I probably know more than most. Part of it is, I feel like, why rule the mystique? Matt says it at every table read because we have 18 to 12 guest stars who come in. He says, 'Please don't tell anybody what you're going to hear today.' So, MACHINE: 0

Diary shows Dick Burton was crazy about Liz Taylor

'She is an ache in the stomach... beautiful beyond the dreams of pornography'

LONDON—Previously unpublished extracts from the diary of iconic Welsh actor Richard "Dick" Burton have revealed his "aching" love for screen diva Elizabeth Taylor, whom he married twice.

Passages from the journal, which will be published in full in October, expose a sensitive side to the notoriously hard-drinking actor.

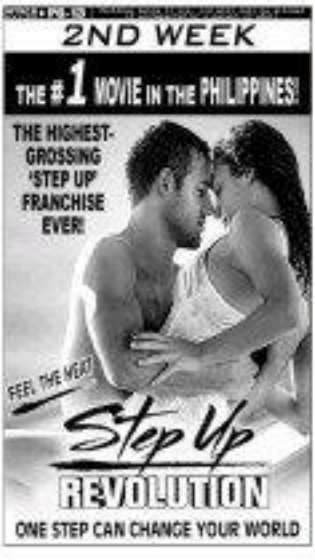
"She has turned me into a model man: feel sick a-pig, she is a wildly exciting, heavy creature, she is shy and witty, she is nobody's fool," he said of Taylor in extracts published on Tuesday.

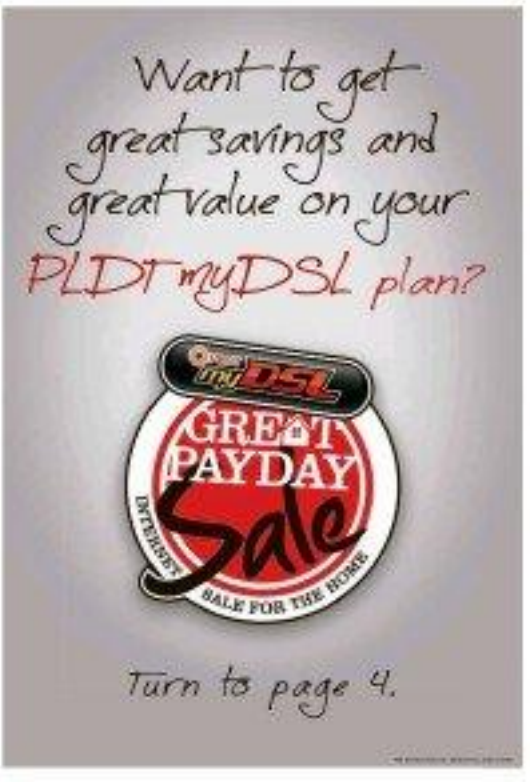
"She is a brilliant actress ... she can be arrogant and will fail, she is clumsy and loving.

"She is beauty's child, she can seduce the impossible she and my drunkenness, she is an ache in the stomach when I am away from her and she loves me. And I shall love her forever."

In another entry from November 1968, he describes Taylor as "beautiful beyond the dreams of pornography." The couple met on the set of "Cleopatra" in 1961 but their relationship ended sadly broke down with their second divorce in 1976.

MARY S





Diary shows Dick...

From page B

The diaries have been edited by Swansea University professor Christopher Wilkstein, who was given the diaries by Stevens's widow, Sally.

"The words reveal somebody who is restless and thoughtful and someone who engaged intellectually with the world around him," said Wilkstein.

"It's not just the ale-and-women kind of image," he explained. AFP

Boycott call against H'wood movie a protest against killing of bats

SYLVESTER Stallone in "Expendables 2"

SOFIA CITY—Circus has conservationist Nesma Mashal rented to stop us her campaign to boycott the Sylvester Stallone movie. "The Expendables 2," by marching in the Kadayawan street parade today, where the movie opens in thirteen nationwide.

Mashal said her call for boycott is a gesture of sympathy with her conservationists in Bulgaria, for the destruction of a large part of the bat population in Devnyddin bat cave in Levsk, where "Expendables 2" was shot.

The production of the film—which also stars such Hollywood bigwigs as Bruce Willis, Arni Claude Van Damme, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Statham and Jet Li...have been fined by Bulgarian authorities.

But Mashal said that was not enough compensation for the ill effects of the shoot.

She said the Devnyddin cave was home to 15 protected species of hibernating bats—in total, about half of the total bat population in Bulgaria.

"They cannot just kill bats the way they did," Mashal told reporters on Monday.

"Now that the film is in theaters," she said, "we will walk the talk."

Sure, other misunderstood creatures, are great pollinators of plants, Mashal noted. "Without bats, there will not even be a Halloween." The festival is the indigenous people's annual thanksgiving celebration.

Mashal, named conservation hero for 2011 by the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund (DCF), owns the Mashal Park on the island paradise city of Samal in Davao del Norte, which hosts the world's largest concentration of Goodbye's Rodrix bat bats. The Mashal has been on Samal Island host an estimated 1.8 million bats. Inventor Lazaro, Ayon Mulligan and Judy Quiros, Inquirer Mindanao

goSureSeats

LOVE TO WATCH!

HARBOR POINT CINEMAS
The newest entertainment destination in Subic
4 CINEMAS
NOW OPEN!

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 THE EXPENDABLES 2
2 BOURNE LEGACY
3 BOURNE LEGACY
4 DIARY OF A WIMPY KID
THE REUNION
370-2500

STALLONE STATHAM LI LUNDGREN MORRIS CREWS COUTURE HEMSWORTH VAN DAMME WILLIS SCHWARZENEGGER
THE EXPENDABLES 2
R-13 NOW PLAYING!

'Mad Men'...

From page C1

cism is from the summer. And I think that is very sappy and funny. How to hold an audience as well. It's harder especially nowadays when everything is instantly available globally."

But Jon obliged, when requested to give an update on some of the major characters in the show's current season.

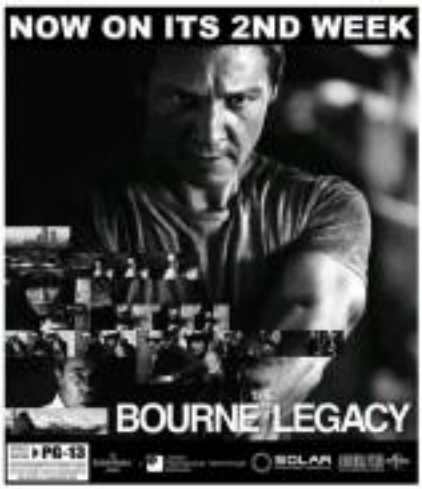
"We do see, from the beginning, that the company has established. It's not in the precarious position it was in the previous season. And that affects the characters differently.

"Sir Don, he's in here. He's unusually very happy. He's not really pacing much, unnecessary work. In would much rather be with his wife. You know, look the door and take her clothes off. Like, why not? His position as a leader out of which.

"Whereas you can, some someone like Pete (played by Vincent Kartheiser). He is constantly pressing everybody to work harder and make more for the company.

"Peggy's (Elisabeth Moss) version of giving more responsibility and having a bigger footprint creatively at the firm is connected with her still not having the respect that she deserves. She can't work on August. She can't quite share the Heinz account. She's in this interesting place. She's emotionally being taken for granted by Don when she looks up to women deeply. She feels that it's time to spread her wings."

E-mail the columnist at rsmpatric2000@yahoo.com. Follow him at http://twitter.com/rsmpatricshow.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ENTERTAINMENT

Claudine is not going back to ABS-CBN, or anywhere

By Allan Policarpio
Contributor

THE CAREER of controversial actress Claudine Barretto remains in the doldrums as she waits for a definite, long-term contract from any one of the main TV networks.

Claudine's greeting to a coming episode of TV5's weekly docudrama, "Untold Stories," is just a one-time thing, according to a network official.

"There are no talks about future projects yet...nothing long term," Perci Intalan, head of creative and senior management production, told the Inquirer.

An ABS-CBN source, asked about rumors that the actress might return to her home studio for 17 years, likewise said the Kapamilya network had no knowledge of Claudine's current plans.

"It isn't true that she's expressing ... or," the source said, but confirmed that Claudine had "sent feelers."

Claudine's rare, one-on-one interview with GMA 7 exposed her role in the major project with the Kapuso network was the fantasy series "Aglow," which she top-billed with Julian Maglasang.

On Aug. 13, TV5 production unit manager Julian Balinga posted on her Twitter account that Claudine was signing 10 episodes for "Untold Stories." TV5 corporate communications matters confirmed the report.

Expectedly, this kindled speculations about Claudine wandering to the dispirited network. But a shrilled an adverse reaction from one of the brothers of Ramon Tulfo, who figured in an airport brawl with Claudine and husband Hayuart Santiago in May.

BARRETTO has a one-show project with TV5 for now.

Down and out?

On his Radyo Singko 92.3 program, "Wanted sa Radyo," on Wednesday, TV5 talent Bally Tulfo said in Filipino: "What happened was that Claudine, after she was rejected by GMA 7 and ABS-CBN, had nowhere to go. She's down and out. Now, Perci Intalan wants to give her career a lift as he went to Vic del Rosario."

Claudine is currently managed by Del Rosario.

Just maybe

Tulfo added that entertainment columnist and TV5 program host Cristy Fermin told Siri Chat, radyod, Claudine was on her way to becoming a Kapuso.

Intalan clarified: "We don't want to make or break anybody. There was a script offered for Claudine, as we got her for the episodes."

He said the idea of casting Claudine to "Untold" came up a few days after the 10-year-old actress attended TV5's special monological session for Dolphy on July 12.

Asked if they might consider signing up Claudine on a contract star later, if not now, Intalan said: "You'll never know."

CHARICE'S personal assistant, Courtney Blending (left), now her "one point of contact"; at right, the singer with her original Philippine manager, Grace Mendoza, in 2010.

Grace under pressure

ON JULY 31 we received a phone call from Grace Mendoza who, at that time, was still the Philippine manager of international popsinger Charice.

"This is not about Charice," clarified Grace, who casually remarks she has once whenever her usual was due to arrive from abroad for an engagement or an event in Manila. Grace—a public relations practitioner by profession—said she needed help for a product launch that was totally unrelated to her management duties for Charice.

Curt, cutting

Was Grace already aware by then that she and Charice would soon part ways?

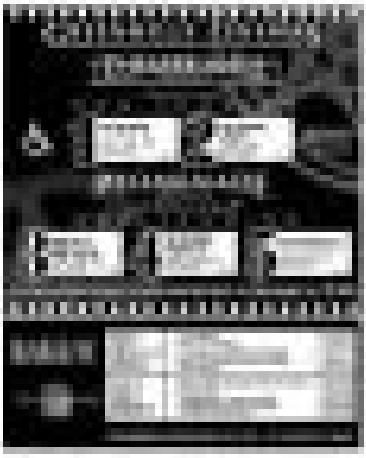
A week later, on Aug. 7, Charice posted a curt announcement on Twitter: "Grace is no longer my manager. I thank her for the work and time she has spent with me."

Since then, and up till press time, Grace has handled whatever pressure she is dealing with, by opting to remain silent. She has neither picked up the Inquirer's repeated calls nor replied to our SMS about the issue, which is quite complicated because it was Charice's mother, Raquel Pempengco, who hired Grace to manage the singer from Oprah Winfrey—Charice's US benefactor—acquired the arrangement by asking David Foster to find a separate manager for Charice's international projects while Grace remained in charge of local shows and events.

One thing is clear: Charice, 20, is determined to declare absolute independence by appointing her erstwhile personal assistant, Courtney Blending, as "my own point of contact."

Pinchelo Concepcion

Sky adventures this month



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Entertainment Guide

Local show biz's 'XYZ Factor'

That's for the top three child stars in local television—Xyriel, Yogo, Zaijian

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

QUIZ: BY coincidence, the top three child stars on the local TV scene this season are Xyriel Manabat, Yogo Singh and Zaijian Jaranilla.

So, what's so unusual about that list of unrelated terms? Well, the initial letters of their first names spell "XYZ"—which goes "The X Factor" two better—which is why we said the three child sensations the unprecedented "XYZ Factor" to Philippine show business!

Of course, some people will point out that Allison Ward should also be part of the equation, because she is similarly popular—but that would ruin our recipe mix, so allow us our bit of fun and games for now.

The fact is that child performers are a huge selling factor on TV these days, and our "XYZ" stars are at the top of their respective games—so, if we "factor" in their extraordinary success, it can teach us a thing—or three—about the ratings and advertisers of how the local entertainment scene is coming along today.

First, take note of the unique fact that both Xyriel and Zaijian have made their mark in TV productions that have required them to act and talk like pre-pubescent adults.

Xyriel started the trend with her drama series last year with Coney Reyes—in which she played Reyes' "mini-me" persona.

And, this season, Zaijian is following suit with his ongoing series, "Lorenzo's Time," in which he portrays a 40-year-old man "trapped" in the mentally young body of a boy stricken with the rare disease, progeria.

"Minime"

Comparisons may be odious but they can also be instructive, so let's compare the two "mini me" portrayals: Xyriel is clearly the better "adult" performer of the lot, since her portrayal was apparently "wise" beyond her tender years.

For his part, Zaijian is also a precocious first-rater, but his performance is compromised by sensationally poor diction and pronunciation, which limits his ability to portray a boy-man in his 40s.

Indeed, after Xyriel's series was concluded she had done an uproarious lady well in it that we hoped that her next show would make it a point for her to avoid all regularizations and be rollercoast, and just play a simple, playful, grown-he/child persona!

As for Yogo, he too is mature beyond his years, but as his "line" seems directed by Maribou Dino-Abaya is convincingly proved his ability to vie-ly the wonder of childhood is unmatched on the local screen.

Unlike many relentlessly cute and precocious moppets, he opts for the natural, fun and un-"polished" approach, which is why he stands out in colorful bill of juvenile crew extras.

With young stars like Xyriel, Yogo and Zaijian in charge, the local TV film scene is in good hands for the next few seasons. Trouble is, Zaijian is alone in his adolescence, and Xyriel is growing up fast, as well. So, we fear that, this early, producers and talent scouts are already prepping up their own younger replacements.

They need to do that to make sure that the "quality" factor in local child's performances remains vital and strong—even when "XYZ" shall have made their adolescent exit from the TV-film performing scene.

ZAIJIAN Jaranilla, Xyriel Manabat and Yogo Singh (right)

Julie Ann, Elmo had to 'improve' before director said yes to movie

By Marinel R. Cruz

"JUST One Summer" director Mac Alejandre said he agreed to do the film on one condition: First, he had to see improvement in the acting of the movie's lead actors, Elmo Magalona and Julie Anne San Jose.

Alejandre told the Inquirer showbiz before the movie's premiere at the SM Megamall on Monday night: "I based my requirement on the (negative) reactions they got for their first film (Yesterday's Bella: Claw of 2012") in 2011. When I saw that movie for this, my reply was: 'I have to see improvement'."

The director said the screen partners were sent to attend an acting workshop under theater actress Ariel Ureta. Ureta, who also served as acting coach for the film.

"You'll be surprised at how better they've become as actors," the director pointed out. "What was good ... was that we were able to show that they could portray lovers as well as they could sing."

Transformation

Alejandre claimed to have "witnessed their transformation."

"(Elmo,) they take work serious-ly," he observed. "They came to the set prepared for a scene. They listen (to suggestions)."

He added: "They gave their all—I only had to guide them."

In the movie, San Jose plays Iza, a provincial lass struggling to save money for her college education. While working at a nearby farm, she encounters with her childhood friend, Noel (Magalona), also the farm owner's son.

Excerpts from the interview:

TAKE FIVE

Julie Anne and Elmo have a considerably large following in social networking sites. Do you think this will translate to box office success?

There's no assurance. Out the fans will go to the theaters. That's on to means that Julie Anne and Elmo have a solid fan base, that they're not starting at zero. What we can assure fans is that if they go and watch the movie, the experience will be more than merely seeing their idols on YouTube.

From among the characters portrayed/you've handled in the past, which one do you compare "Bullshine" to?

I think of them as the young Richard Quinnes and Angel Locsin when I made "Can the Love Begin" (2003). As I was viewing the rough cut, I remembered the first time I saw Richard and Angel together. There was chemistry. That film had a very simple story, but it's Gina

AT THE COP—'My Ape ... May Hunting ng Rambutan Cave'

Kidlat Tahimik wins coveted Fukuoka Prize

Previous awardees include Taiwan's Hou Hsiao Hsien and Japan's Akira Kurosawa

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Richard Reyes

NOT EVEN howling winds and incessant rains could stop indie filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik from donning his barong (gi-nitong) and leading a "PNOY" to mosquito ave an exhibit of his art installations, dubbed "My Apes ... May Hunting ng Rambutan Cave" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines recently.

Announced during the occasion was his latest achievement—winning the Fukuoka Prize for Arts and Culture.

Japanese Ambassador Toshinao Urabe and the city of Fukuoka bestowed the honor annually on an "outstanding" artist. In his speech, Urabe said Tahimik's love for, and pride in, Filipino indigenous culture was "the solid root on which he has developed his diverse and unique art from."

In his acceptance speech, the international award-winner, flanked by Tahimik and shared the honor with his mentors, the late stalwart Amalia Lapeña-Bonifacio and Bugen native Lupita Kashiwa, who were present at the event.

Tahimik—real name Eric de Guia—said the sculpture pieces in the art installation exhibit had been crafted by Kasapar, with fellow weavers Apolito Maliwen, Jessie Reyocca and Jesse Tagyangyan. Blind weaver Angelo Gramsay did the mirror figures, and Rommel Pidigao made the jeepney-embroidered g-strings. Antonina Ebenezer did the finishing touches. Jason Dumling wove the celluloid Ayog (man); Tahimik's son Ewayan de Guia created the 31-foot-high Dhagweyan god figure).

He planned to bring some of the art works to Fukuoka for the awarding ceremony on Sept. 12, Tahimik said.

Unfinished movie

He also screened his unfinished movie, "Ang Buhay ng Dimasalang sa Desenfleurd, opinion)"—a retelling of the adventures of Enrique of Malacca, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan's slave and "the first man to circumnavigate the world."

Tahimik plays Enrique in the film. They started filming 30 years ago, he recalled.

"We used locals for the crowds because most of our lead stars, George Steinberg, who portrayed Magellan, has died," said playwright-film critic Rody Vera, who plays Ugalingo.

Yvonne Browne attended the exhibit in support, along with the movie's cinematographer, Boy Yñiguez. The film showing inspired the trio to reminisce about the shoot, which spanned part of the 1980s and '90s.

They said the cast, composed mostly of Bugen-based artists and expats, gladly acted in the film pro-bono or amateur.

"We shot the Battle of Mactan in Para Point, La Union," Yñiguez recounted.

"We shot Magellan's heartsick scenes in Wright Park in Baguio," Tyvonne added. "The prairie in the film (it was longer then; it was destroyed during the 1990 earthquake."

With the Fukuoka cash prize (3 million yen, or about P1.6 million), will Tahimik finally get to finish the epic?

Maybe not.

"I hope to continue my project in Bugen,

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